The Middlebury Campus

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Trustees add funds to hire a 'repo man' in '99 budget

By Megan Sowards
News Editor

President McCardell and the Board of Trustees announced yesterday that the budget for the college's 1998-1999 fiscal year includes a new salaried position for a vehicle repossesor.

The job description for the yet-to-be-hired "Repo Man" encompasses a two-pronged objective. With the creation of the full-time position, the college aims to combat a mounting parking problem and generate revenues to cover losses stemming from unpaid PIN bills.

"There is a twin logic behind the hiring of a vehicle repossesor," said President John McCardell. "In addition to assuaging a problem which at times has been deemed a jeremiad, the revenues will also cover the financial shortfall occurring in the Comptroller's office. More than forty percent of Middlebury students hold delinquent PIN accounts, which have been overdue since January."

In conjunction with the hire of a repossesor, Community Council has issued a new mandate which allows Campus Security to repossess any vehicle after it has received more than five parking tickets. The College plans to hold repossessed vehicles in six satellite storage units dotted around Addison County, including one in Ripton.

After a vehicle has been held for more than a month, it will be auctioned at a campus-wide sale slated to be held the first Saturday of each month. The repossessor will also be charged with auctioneering these bargain bonanzas.

"I am thrilled that the College has decided to take such a definitive stance on our growing parking problem," said Director of Public Safety Tedi Jennings. "This year we have towed vehicles four or five times a week, some of which were blocking fire lanes; this poses a danger to the entire community."

Students, however, are concerned that this authoritarian approach to the College's parking problem is much too severe. Some even charge that the measure infringes on individual freedom and liberties.

"I grew up in a communist country, and when someone didn't like something you did, they repossessed your car," said Damjan de Krnjevic-Miskovic '98.

Despite rising student concern, Public Safety has found a loophole

(see Trustees, page 2)

Surveillance system to be installed in dining hall

By Lela Moore
Editor in Chief

This past Tuesday, Middining director Peter Napolitano approved the installation of a closed-circuit video surveillance system in Proctor Hall. The system is designed to help reduce the amount of food, china and flatware stolen from the dining hall as well as to prevent people from sneaking in without swiping a Middcard at the entrance.

Six video cameras will be installed throughout Proctor. One will be located over the main door, one over the main exit door two in the servery, one above the frozen yogurt machine and one near the tray return area. A bank of television monitors will be located in a room underneath the kitchen, near the employee breakroom, where Napolitano and his staff plan to take turns watching the images produced by the cameras in hopes of identifying perpetrators.

"This system is extremely high-tech," said Napolitano. "It's the same kind used in lots of convenient store security systems." As of yet, there are no cameras installed in either Lower Proctor, Freeman or Hamlin. Because Upper Proctor serves the majority of students and because most of the theft and illicit entries occur there, it was a logical test site for the system, said Napolitano.

"If [the cameras] are successful in Upper Proctor, you'll probably see them in the other dining halls within a year or two," Napolitano said.

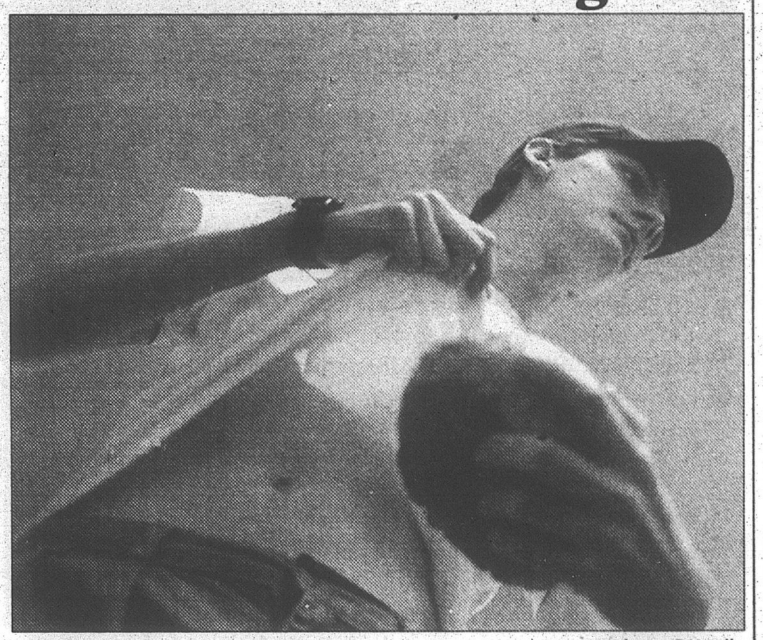
The closed-circuit camera system was the brainchild of Napolitano. When he began his job as Middining director last fall, he was shocked by the amount of food students frequently carried out of the dining hall with them.

"We're talking entire loaves of bread, water bottles of juice, bagels, fruit, cereal, sandwich meat — you name it, someone's stolen it. I once saw someone empty the container of Reese's Pieces by the ice cream into her CUPPS mug and walk out and never look back."

Napolitano is similarly disturbed by students stealing mugs, bowls and flatware from Proctor. "I walk around campus sometimes and I see five or six broken mugs — stolen ones," he said. "And people walk out of here all the time with spoons or forks to use in their rooms. Replacing stolen china and silverware runs up our costs and means you have to pay more for your food. If this keeps up, we may not be able to have High Finance Night in Proctor again next year."

Napolitano hopes that the ignominy of being identified by a surveillance camera will result in a decrease in theft and back-door entries. "I want students to equate stealing bread with shoplifting at a department store, and to equate sneaking in with breaking and entering," said Napolitano. "It's that serious."

Marion Desabrais, a Middining employee who frequently works at Proctor's main entrance during mealtimes, said, "I see them all the time, hanging up their coats and then walking around to the back door like nobody's business. I tell them, 'Get back here and swipe that damn card!' But I can't catch everyone."



Anthony D'Avella

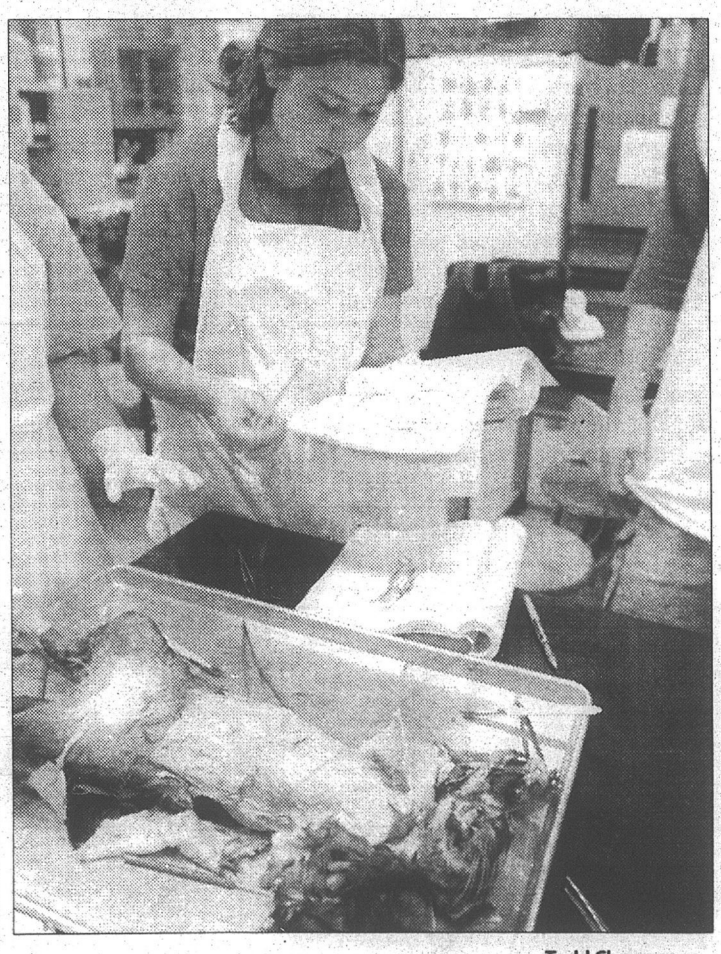
Smile, you're on candid camera! Test cameras in Proctor caught this bold thief trying to pilfer bread.

Students expressed mixed reactions upon hearing about the surveillance system. Members of the varsity hockey team, long-favored by the Proctor employees at the main door and frequently allowed to enter the dining hall without swiping, are upset at the advent of the video monitoring and its possible effects on their status as preferred diners.

"I think this is really unfair," said Chris Farion '98, a hockey goalie. "I mean, we're national champions. We have more important things to do than remember all six numbers of our PIN whenever we want to grab a bite to eat."

Carri Smith '98, a member of Napolitano's steering committee on dining services, had a different reaction. "I've had a Proctor knife in my room since freshman year," she admitted. "I didn't realize the impact that stealing silverware and food had on our budget. I think the video cameras are a good idea if they can teach students to respect their property more."

Weird Science?



Todd Champagne

A unique dish; *uniformed Middining staff prepare Cajun Spiced Cat as the featured entree for Friday's High Finance theme dinner in Proctor.*

NorthFace slated to open outlet on campus by 2000

By Jennifer Jensen
News Editor

Middlebury College could become the home of one of 100 new NorthFace Outlets to open by the year 2000, according to the latest Residential Life Improvement plan. The proposed outlet is part of an agreement between the Middlebury College Board of Trustees and NorthFace, Inc. which will include a commercial merger between the College and the clothing manufacturer.

The proposal includes the building of a NorthFace outlet to be located on the Middlebury Campus as well as the creation of the MiddFace Extreme Studies program.

In an attempt to merge a Liberal Arts education with extreme sports, NorthFace has agreed to fund the MiddFace program which will send a priviledged group of carefully selected Middlebury College students to various extreme sports programs in Nepal, Tibet, Argentina, Kenya, Indiana, Lesotho, the Yukon, Siberia and Mauritania.

"We decided to create the MiddFace program in order to encourage students who are both atheticaly-inclined and strong academically to apply their knowledge of extreme sports in another culture," said Director of Off-Campus Study David Macey. "We have at least 75 expert rock climbers and 12 heli-boarders enrolled in the college who may never have the opportunity to put their skills to practical use. The MiddFace program is an excellent way to do it."

If the College decides to follow through with the merger, 12 lucky students could be rock climbing in Tibet or Dog-sled racing in Siberia by Fall of the year 2000. Executives of NorthFace see the *MiddFace* program as both an opportunity to increase profit yields, market the NorthFace name, and support the application of a liberal arts education.

The company, whose highest grossing products include sub-zero ski clothing, plans on funding the NorthFace project from a percentage of the profit-yield from prod-

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COLLEGE shorts

By Josh Irwin
Crazy Horse

College publications forgo traditional foolery in favor of serious journalism

John Fuchko III, editor of a weekly student newspaper at Kennesaw State University, has eliminated the traditional April Fools' edition from the publication's schedule.

"To play around with people's minds would not be responsible journalism," Fuchko said, worrying that many jokes "will be libelous, because you're making fun of people and might end up going too far."

The managing editor of *The Northern Star* at Northern Illinois University expressed similar reservations. "Professionals in our field see our newspaper as a joke anyway—because it's a college newspaper—so we don't need to publish an April Fools' edition to hurt our credibility," Laura Grigsby said.

Yet *The Chronicle for Higher Education* reports that April Fools' issues, "are often more popular with students than are the editions of student newspapers that convey serious news." And some student editors agree. "There's a way to make things funny and satirical without making them offensive," said Melanie Myers, editor of the U.M.D. Statesman at the University of Minnesota at Duluth.

While the majority of college administrators may not be laughing, John Silber, chancellor of Boston University, looks forward to the April Fools' edition. "I've never been accused of having an overwhelming excess of good humor, but I've always enjoyed the issue," he said. "I've been suckered at least twice in the 26 years I was president. It's just a riot."

Source: The Chronicle Of Higher Education

Trustees begin search for 'repo man'

(continued from page 1)

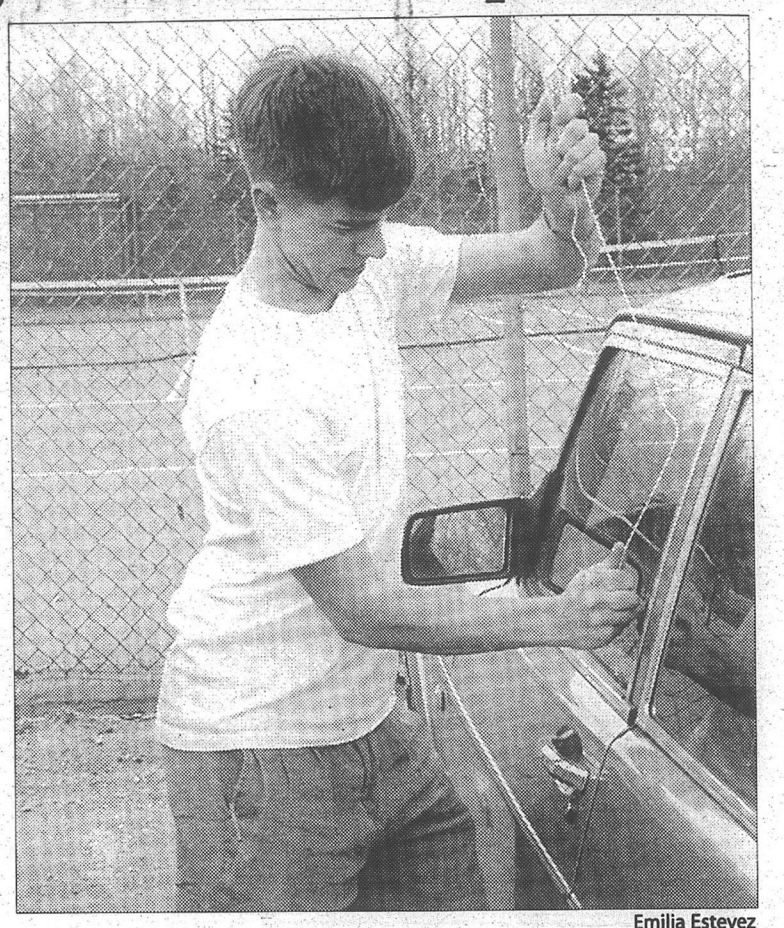
in an obscure ruling, Irwin vs. Estevez, which allows an institution of higher education complete hegemony over vehicles parked on its property. According to the ruling handed down by Vermont's Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, "any university or college campus heretofore and *ipso facto*, has said right to repossess said vehicle parked within the jurisdiction of the institution's physical plant."

The College plans to conduct a nation-wide search for the man or woman who will surely become the most unpopular employee on the College payroll.

The College will also consider student applications and hopes to conduct a training course over Winter Term. In a surprise move, Chuck Swenson has offered to return to campus to instruct the training course. While enjoying a lucrative book tour after his successful foray into America's fitness craze, Swenson has agreed to support the college's noble cause.

"Although a handful of Middlebury students have trained under me, I would like to offer my innovative skills to a larger scope of Middlebury's campus," said Swenson.

Car repossession may seem like a harsh, and even draconian measure to force irresposible and negligent students to pay their parking tickets and PIN bills, but Jennings sees reposession as a means to an end. "This isn't New York City; it's not about revenue. Students can't keep avoiding bills and think they can get away with it. Students need to be prepared for the real world. I also think that reposession will help the parking problem."



Emilia Estevez

Hooliganism isn't the impetus for this break-in; requiring only a coat hanger, the low overhead of car reposession makes for a lucarative occupation.

NorthFace scheduled to open by 2000

(continued from page 1)

ucts sold at the Middlebury College outlet.

"The way we see it is that everyone benefits. Middlebury College students will have the opportunity to experience another culture, the college will be the home of a unique and highly competitive program, and NorthFace will increase sales," commented NorthFace Northeast Regional Director George Singely.

An ad-hoc committee is being formed to work out the details of the MiddFace program. Although the committee supports the pursuit of extreme sports, they want to be ensured that the program has, first and foremost, an academic focus. In order to fulfill an academic requirement, particpants in the program will be required to pursue an academically-focused research project that incorporates their sport. At the end of the four-month program, participants will be required to produce some sort of a final project such as a paper or a film.

"A prime candidate for the MiddFace program might be, for example, an Environmental Studies student who rock climbs. They could, say, go to Nepal to determine ways to organize rock climbing trips which respect the environment and the local culture," said Macey.

Despite its opportunistic character, the MiddFace program is expected to receive heavy criticism. Many are opposed to the merger of a non-profit institution with a pofit-motivated business such as NorthFace.

"The college could encounter serious legal issues from such a close association with a for-profit company. We really need to consider what our goals are in going through with the NorthFace project," commented college spokeswoman Sarah Ray.

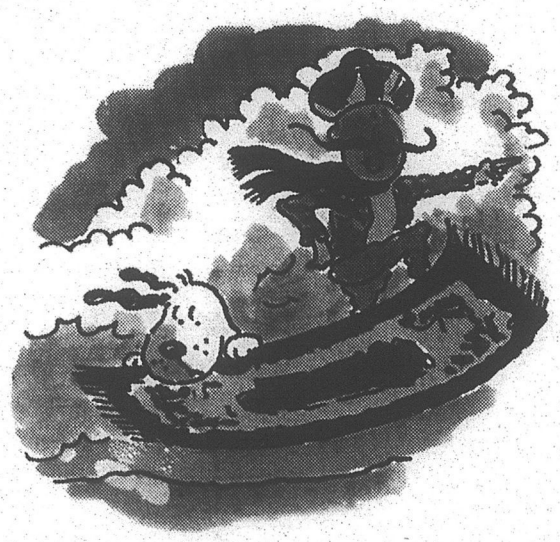
Others feel that a program that encourages extreme sports is utterly impractical and realistic only to a priviledged applicant pool which has had the means to support the typical high costs of most extreme sports. Desptie criticism, Macey is still positive about the merits of a MiddFace program. "Extreme sports have received a bad reputation from liberals in recent years who see them as promoting elitist and ethnocentric ideologies. It is our belief that the MiddFace program will eradicate these misconceptions."

The committee is looking into ways to fairly select applicants for the program, and much research still needs to be done in order to establish the programs in countries abroad. As it is envisioned currently, a student must be somewhat adept at their sport of choice and muct have some sort of detailed proposal concerning their academic focus. Although only Middlebury College students will be eligible for assisted funding offered by the program, it will be open to all students enrolled in a liberal arts college, just as any other study abroad program.

The MiddFace program will require many months of additional planning if the merger with NorthFace is made. The ad-hoc committee is planning on researching similar programs to get feedback on ways to go about getting it established. The decision to merge with NorthFace should be fortified by the end of the 1997-98 academic year. If the college does decide to go ahead with the merger, the committee will begin extensive research and will be seeking feedback from members of the community.

Despite the uncertainty of the program, Macey continues to express enthusiasm about the MiddFace Program. "I don't know how much this student body really needs a NorthFace oulet, but I think the MiddFace program is a wonderful idea. I see it as Outward Bound meets the School for International Training in all their glory."

Jaffa Falafel

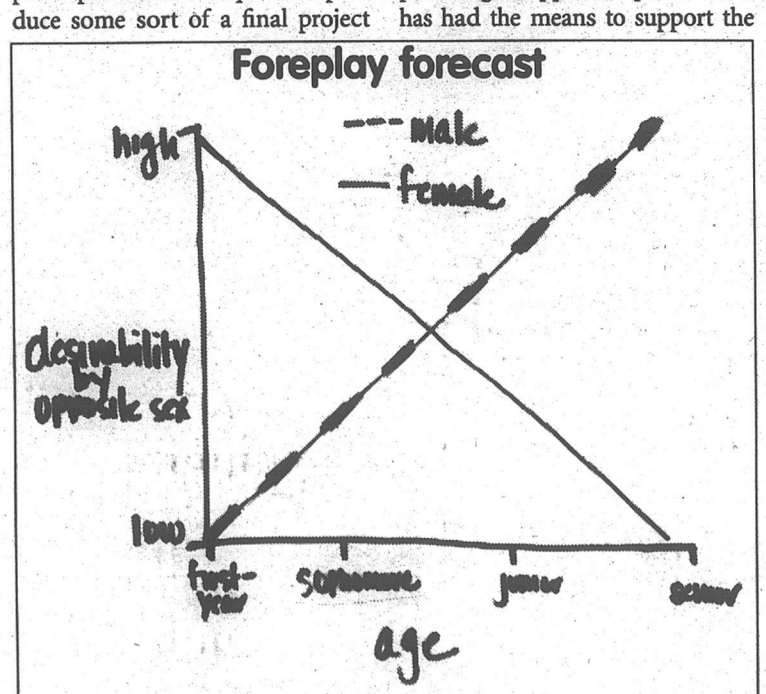


Student Special:

Falafel with Babaganoosh
$1.75
Gyro with Yogurt Sauce
$2.50

Serving the finest MiddleEast cuisine in the heart of Ripton

Located on Route 125, east of the Ripton General Store



According to this graph, sophomore J-term is the optimal time for hookups.

Courtesy of Erotica st at http://www.fontboy.com

Doonesbury

BY G.B. TRUDEAU*

* enhanced by Michael Bilodeau

MOMMY, I LIKE CLUB MIDD! DO YOU THINK WE'LL LIVE HERE A LONG TIME?
WELL, HONEY, IT KIND OF DEPENDS ON WHETHER DADDY'S HOCKEY TEAM KEEPS WINNING.
3-23
THAT'S WHY HE'S ALWAYS ON THE ROAD RECRUITING. IT'S NOT EASY TO KEEP A TEAM ON TOP YEAR AFTER YEAR.
MIDD
FORTUNATELY, YOUR DADDY HAS QUITE A TALENT FOR ATTRACTING THE COOLEST STUDENT-ATHLETES TO THE COLLEGE!
YO, I JUST NEED A PLACE TO SCAM AND GET MASTED!
YOU'RE IN LUCK, SON— WE CAN MEET THAT SPECIAL NEED!
MMM
CLUB MIDD HAS WHOLE DEPARTMENTS FULL OF PLAYER-FRIENDLY COURSES TAUGHT BY FACULTY WHO UNDERSTAND YOUR SPECIAL NEEDS.
3-24
BEFORE YOU KNOW IT, YOU'LL BE BASKING IN THE PRESTIGE OF ATTENDING A FULLY OVERFUNDED COLLEGE— JUST LIKE ECON STUDENTS!
SO WHAT DO YOU THINK, SON? ANY QUESTIONS?
UH...YEAH...
WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH FOOD?
FEEDINGS ARE ON THE HOUR! PLUS, LOTS OF ROACKS LIVE IN THE MEAT LOCKER!
COACH, I DON'T SEE ANYTHING IN HERE ABOUT PARTY PROTECTION.
PARTY PROTECTION?
3-25
YEAH, MAN, I PLAY HARD— BOTH ON THE ICE AND OFF! WHAT IF I GET BUSTED OR I SET FIRES? WHAT IF I PUNCH OUT A COP OR SOME GIRL ACCUSES ME OF DATE RAPE?
I MEAN, WOULD THE COLLEGE GET BEHIND ME OR WHAT?
ABSOLUTELY. WE'D SET YOU UP WITH A TOP LEGAL TEAM— PLUS A PUBLICIST TO GET OUT YOUR SIDE OF THE STORY!
COOL. BECAUSE I GOTTA BE ME, YOU KNOW?
ABSOLUTELY. ALL ROCK STARS HAVE HAD TO BE THEMSELVES!
COACH, I DON'T SEE IN THIS LETTER OF INTENT ANY MENTION OF AARON'S EDUCATION. WHO WILL GUIDE HIM ACADEMICALLY, MAKE SURE HE GRADUATES, GET HIM ON THE RIGHT CAREER PATH?
3-26
UH... WELL, I'D BE HAPPY TO SPELL ALL THAT OUT FOR YOU, SIR. FRANKLY, I DON'T MEET TOO MANY FATHERS INTERESTED IN THAT SIDE OF THE MIDD EXPERIENCE!
I'M NOT HIS FATHER.
OH...THEN YOU WOULD BE...?
I WOULD BE HIS FASHION ICON.
WHATEVER, IT'S GREAT THAT YOU'RE SO INVOLVED.
HEY, COACH, BEFORE I SIGN THIS LETTER OF INTENT, I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU SOMETHING...
SHOOT, EDDIE.
3-27
COACH, I KNOW I'M SLOW, BUT I'M NOT AN IDIOT— I REALIZE A PRO CAREER ISN'T IN THE CARDS FOR ME. I'M GONNA NEED A COLLEGE EDUCATION!
COACH, WILL CLUB MIDD PREPARE ME FOR LIFELONG PROS?
EDDIE, I PERSONALLY GUARANTEE IT! WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE?
HE
I DUNNO— MAYBE A DANCER, SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
I THINK "EDDIE" HAS TWO D's.
T
B.D.? WHERE ARE YOU?
AT BOOMER LAPAGE'S HOUSE. HE'S IN THE OTHER ROOM CONFERRING WITH HIS AGENT.
3-28
A HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR HAS AN AGENT?
BOOPSIE, YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE WHAT THESE ARROGANT JERKS ASK FOR!
I MEAN, THERE WERE SOME COCKY GUYS IN MY DAY, BUT THESE KIDS ARE OUT OF CONTROL! IT'S BEEN VERY HARD HOLDING THE LINE HERE...
COACH? HE WANTS A JET FOR AWAY GAMES.
NO PROBLEM.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOTICE TO THE COLLEGE COMMUNITY:
In order to make things as unpleasantly complicated as possible, those students who do not enroll in an expensive PE course will be stripped of all rights to be a functional member of our community.. After a modest $50 fine, your priveledges entitling you to a room next year will be denied. Hell, make it a $100 fine and immediate exile from your dorm room. You will not be allowed to register for any courses, and will be forced instead to listen daily to the Mead Chapel bells. We hope you will all step forward to support life skills such as juggling, and financially lend a hand to our poor department. Thank you for your cooperation.

OVERHEARD

"Boy is the Campus staff clever."

-The first of April in the mailroom

Editorial

Make way for the commons

For months now, the administration has worked to finalize the details of the enhanced commons system. The major issue at this point in the process is reconciling students' individual interests with the interests of the campus community as a whole. Witness the recent debates over decentralized dining, proximate faculty housing and the role that social houses and academic interest houses should play in the commons.

As it seems that another 200 years will pass before everyone is satisfied with the commons system, we would like to offer our own proposals in order to speed things up a bit.

First, we propose that the college simply start over from scratch. Bring in a couple of bulldozers and raze the entire campus (let's be honest — who's going to miss Johnson anyway?). Next, build every student his or her own small house. Each student would be responsible for his or her own electric and utility bills in addition to providing furnishings. This would ostensibly would reduce dorm damage costs by promoting a deeper sense of respect for personal property as well as alleviate complaints about how Middlebury is so unlike the "real world."

To stem complaints about proximate faculty housing, we propose that each student house be equipped with an personal computer and all classes offered over the web. A professor could then teach class in his or her bathrobe from home or while traveling, and students would no longer have to worry about rushing off to class.

Even more so than proximate faculty housing, however, decentralized dining has long been the proverbial thorn in the side of the enhanced commons proposal. We believe that dining should be a central part of student life— the Middlebury experience would simply not be complete without the social phenomenon that is scoping. Thus we offer the solution of a single giant dining room located in the middle of campus, connected to every student house by tunnels. We recognize that some faculty members — those who believe that every occasion on which students interact is an occasion for intellectual discourse — would take offense at the continued existence of such a blatantly social institution. Therefore we propose that all lectures be scheduled during mealtimes and delivered in the dining hall so as to stimulate a more cerebral dining atmosphere.

The college strives in establishing a new commons system to create a balance between residential life and academic life. We believe that our proposals best exemplify this ideal of a community of individuals by promoting independent thinking and responsible socializing. So what are we waiting for? Bring on the bulldozers!

The Middlebury Campus

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Stratton admits psychopathic status

hail from the
CHIEF
Bryan Stratton '98

Now that my senior year is quickly winding to a close, I'm starting to get a few people here and there who want to know if I've got any regrets about moving on into the big, bad world. They ask me things like, "It's going to be pretty tough to leave all of this behind, huh?"

Nothing could be further from the truth. Or is that "farther"? I don't know. And, furthermore, I don't care. I don't care about grammar, about the SGA, or any of you. Surely you must have suspected this for a while by now. This whole SGA President thing, it was just another high-speed vehicle for my increasingly-expanding ego to zoom around on.

I set out to become Middlebury College's biggest star, and I've done just that. Granted, that's a pretty simple goal, but it's good practice for the real world. We're constantly told in the College propaganda that we are the future, right? Well, I figure that if I can pull something like this off here, it's good practice for the real world. The College is my petri dish, and you are all little tiny bacteria.

Sure, I've used people left and right, and I've abused my position horribly, but it's all in the name of self-gratification, and when you know how much better you are than anyone else, that's all the justification you need. Or, rather, all the justification I need. I've already said how little I care for you mewling little peasants.

Do you think I actually had ideals at any point during my campaign or presidency? Do you think I actually believed I could make the College a better place, that if I could somehow become the President of the SGA, maybe just a few of the things which keep life from being as good as it could be might go away? If so, you'd better take a step back and look at who you elected. If the SGA has been more effective this year than it was before, if we've actually accomplished something and given you hope for the future, let me assure you that it was completely accidental.

The funniest part about the whole thing, for me, is the fact that you were warned about me, and you elected me anyway. Raoul Pop, just before the election, wrote the most accurate assessment of my character I've ever read; it was so accurate that I became concerned that he was going to blow my secret before I'd had a chance to put my master plan into action. He told all of you that I was a "classic psychopath," that I deliberately cultivated a look to draw attention to myself, that I was, in short, the last person who should be elected to high office on any scale. And you ignored him.

Of course I'm a psychopath. I'm completely self-absorbed, and everything and everyone is a means to an end for me. It's performance art taken to the ultimate extreme: life as performance. Morality is something I ditched a long time ago. I refuse to believe that anything I could say or do could possibly be "wrong."

For example, everyone here knows someone who "left school" for whatever reason, to "take a semester off" or to "transfer." Those people didn't leave, they didn't take time off, and they certainly didn't transfer. They're all in a freezer in Ripton. I put them there. When the cops come for me, I'll go quietly, eagerly anticipating the chance to defend myself at my trial. It'll be high drama, better than OJ or the Menendez brothers. Of course, I'll be found guilty, and that's when I'll earn my place in history beside the greats: Manson, Bundy, Berkowitz.

And then I'll be remembered forever. Let's face it, no one wants to be forgotten, me least of all. I'm shooting for fame, but I've always got notoriety to fall back on. It's no secret that I admire Marilyn Manson a great deal, and that's because he's got it all figured out. If you want attention, there's always ways to get it. Be a freak, say outrageous things, annoy enough people, and you're the talk of the town. You don't even have to have a plan or, really, even anything to say. Substance doesn't work in this world; if you don't have style, you're nothing.

Now, as much as I'd like to talk some more about myself, I've got places to go and people to see. I've got to go lounge about with rich people and drink expensive champagne and make all sorts of under-the-table deals in a smoky room.

None of this has anything to do with making your lives better, of course; the truth is that I've already been offered four very generous positions in trustee-owned investment banking firms in exchange for services rendered. You won't get anything out of these meetings, but I think you've already become better people just having been exposed to my influence. So let me say "you're welcome" and add a "thank you" to that for giving me exactly the kind of education I needed from college. Ha ha hahahahahahahah!

Mud, J. Crew and pyromania effect odd harmony

Emily Manning '00

After 200 years of existence, the College has finally decided to wise up and put drains along the sidewalks to alleviate the traditional Middlebury College mud season. Of course, in lieu of the whole commons proposal, the implemenation of these drains will probably take another 10 years. Come on.. we need to be sure of the direction we're going. What if the drains don't fit in with the system? What if each commons should have a specific drainage systems rather than a single system for the whole college? SGA has probably already made a committee to discuss the matter, I'm sure. And then there will be the construction. That will take another year. So, guess it's time to invest in another pair of boots. You know, the floor of my room is caked with mud. So, I'm sure you're like "Well why don't you vacuum?" Gee, ya really think so? Actually, I've searched high and low for a vacumn but I have a feeling it was stolen along with the couch from our lounge. I keep knocking on my RA's door, but he's never there. I know, I know.. you're wondering why I don't just leave my sneakers in the hall? Well, last time I tried that the costodians took them. It took me three weeks to find them- they were great- the new Adidas Terrain Lights. (By the way, I highly recommend them — most comfortable shoes I've tried yet.) Maybe along with the new trash system, we need to implement a communal shoe area. Considering how much respect people have for others' things, I am sure your shoes will remain in the place you left them for at least 10 minutes. After all, the plant I left in the bathroom to dry last week lasted an hour until someone came in and took it. And it was a regular, old normal plant. No drugs.

> **We wouldn't want people walking around without the latest J. Crew sweater to feel as though they don't belong. If all of us are in the proper uniform, we will all be in harmony.**

But, back to the drains. Yep — it's a good thing... if it happens.

Drains.. that reminds me of Professor Mack's new proposal. I thought his last one was great. You know, the one calling for the abolishment of social houses. I even convinced a couple of faculty members to vote for it. (Yes, I know you wish that you had the same lobbying skills, but I will happy to make you a part of my team.) But this new proposal is even more fantastic. I mean, the idea of the College buying each student a J. Crew outfit per semester is the best yet. As he said, this is certain to make the campus more inclusive. We wouldn't want people walking around without the latest J. Crew sweater to feel as though they don't belong. If all of us are in the proper uniform, we will all be in harmony and there will be less social competition. As you know, he also proposed that women should stay in their rooms after 10 p.m. each night in order to maintain the same level of attraction as during the day. Granted,

(see Pyromaniacs, page 5)

Bruce critiques latest campus happenings

Good Stuff
Bad Stuff
Noah Bruce '98

Good Stuff: Security declares amnesty on all contraband articles. In a surprisingly compassionate move, Head of Security Heddi Jenner has made the decision to return all items confiscated by security through the 1997-1998 school year. When asked about her sudden change of heart, Jenner commented, "I realized that ruining other people's good times is wrong. I realized that waltzing in on someone's session and stealing the bong they bought with their hard earned money is wrong. I'm tired of security being thought of as the secret police." Students with lost items must report to security by April 14 to claim items. Among other confiscated items sitting in security's infamous grey closet are 14 kegs, 12 taps, two hookahs, eight beer balls, 46 pipes, one large plastic phallus, 182 water pipes and 12 bales of marijuana.

GOOD STUFF - Class of 2002 to be diverse as heck. Like Middlebury but think it is too homogenous? Well has the Admissions Office got the answer for you. The class of 2002 is to be 35% African American, 25% Asian/ Pacific Islander, 12% American Indian/ Aleutian, 15% Latino, 10% Sub Continental, 2% Irish, and 1% Polka-Dot. There will be no whites admitted (except the Irish!). Finally, Middlebury will stop paying lip service to multi-culturalism and put the diverse in diversity!

GOOD STUFF - DKE Given to the Dykes — PALANA has their house. The substance free kids get their space. It is a shame that the gay, bisexual, and transgender students at Middlebury have to put up with hate, bigotry, and isolation. If they want their own house, I say give it to them. Apparently Chip Sternwell, national president of DKE agrees. The *Campus* has gotten word that Mr. Sternwell recently offered to lease the DKE house for these students to use. In a statement to the media Mr. Sternwell said, "I want to stress the mutual goals of understanding and tolerance that the homosexual community and the DKE brothers share. Further, I want to invite our homosexual, bisexual, and transwhoosamawhatsee friends to compete in this year's Greek Games, which from this day hence will be renamed The Gay Greek Games."

BAD STUFF - President McDurdel cited for public urination - Last Saturday night after a victory streak at the beer die table at the Mill, Mr. McDurdel was apprehended by Security and given a citation for relieving himself under a pine tree. He argued that he was the President of the college, and he would "piss where [he] damned well pleased." However, McDurdel discovered he was not above the law when he found himself holding a yellow citation form for $15. This sort of behavior is an embarrassment to us all and a bad example for students.

BAD STUFF — Hash bar in the Grille denied. The Newman Club proposal to have the first floor of the Grill be devoted to an "Amsterdam-style coffee shop" has been flatly denied by the administration. After a trip to Jamaica, several Newman members wrote the proposal in an attempt to promote "awareness of and access to the fruits of Mother Nature in the service of devotion to the One Father." Unfortunately, the Commons Committee denied the proposal considering the portion of the handbook entitled "On Substances" which clearly prohibits such an endeavor.

GOOD STUFF — New Commons System thrown out the window. The trustees, President McDurdel, and the college staff have unanimously decided to abolish plans for the new commons system. One trustee said, "This plan sucked, who wants to be like Princeton anyways? Princeton sucks. I want a doughnut."

Dean Danson was quoted as saying "I think the proposed $200 million dollars could be appropriated in more constructive ways. For instance, how about a new library, or free textbooks for all students, or maybe a big, huge Jacuzzi." I for one am glad that those involved in this important decision have come to their senses.

'Let's cut down on fun!' suggests Boardumm

Dull Boardumm '98

I applaud the Student Government Association and the Deans of this College for finally recognizing that Middlebury needs to more closely resemble a prep school, or at least a more repressive institution. In the past, Middlebury students have enjoyed too many freedoms and had too much fun. Therefore, change is clearly in order.

In passing the Sack-Oldinslick proposal, which among other initiatives, mandates curfews for first-year students, football players, and members of social houses, the Social Life Limitation Committee has successfully continued its mission of protecting and preserving the benign blandness of our campus.

Although critics argue that the Sack-Oldinslick bill will limit students' freedom, I wholeheartedly believe this proposal is a step in the right direction.

My only complaint is that the bill's five redeeming features have not yet received sufficient publicity. Therefore, before stroking the egos of faculty members Sack and Oldinslick (and ultimately ensuring access to letters of recommendation), I will outline the bill's features:

1) All first-year students, football players and members of social houses shall check in with their Resident Assistants by 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 12 a.m. on Friday and Saturday, and will remain in their dorm rooms until 8 a.m. the following morning.

2) Any student found guilty of laughing vociferously or otherwise demonstrating enjoyment at a social gathering or in class shall a) serve 30 minutes detention in Carr Hall or b) write "I will only develop the academic aspects of my personality" 100 times on a blackboard in Munroe.

3) Any student found guilty of engaging in an pleasant activity off campus without written permission from a parent or guardian shall subsequently be returned to campus and a call should be made to the students' parents. A second violation shall result in house arrest for one week.

4) Any student found guilty of engaging in any practice besides studying within the confines of a social house shall be caned in the middle of the Quadrangle.

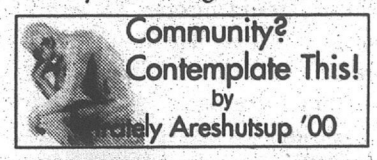
5) Each student shall dress solely in Middlebury paraphernalia, stay physically fit, smile constantly (but not too ostentatiously), study during daylight and twilight hours, and reject any behavior which may be deemed political, social or otherwise not traditionally academic.

Clearly, these initiatives will cut down on dorm damage and improve morale on campus. By decreasing the currently ample social outlets and excessive personal freedoms on campus, this bill will ultimately enhance the learning experience of all students.

Setting decibel limits on laughter, mandating academic themes for parties (for example, "Political Science and Punch" or "Hook Up, Throw Up, or Study"), and enforcing homogeneity on campus will propel Middlebury into the 21st century.

More importantly, these sort of initiatives will surely raise Middlebury's rank in *U.S. News and World Report*, an indisputable sign of a admirable reform.

Areshutsup promotes cultivation of egoism



Let me tell you a little story about an event that changed my life.

After a day of reading the entire Great Books series capped by a profoundly stimulating discussion over chicken cordon bleu in Proctor, I came to the disturbing realization that getting involved in all this brouhaha over "the life of the mind" has made me a very dull boy. Commons? Liberal education? Intellect in Proctor? What was I thinking? Clearly what Middlebury needs is a good healthy dose of egoism. From here on out, it's every man for himself.

The Second College Edition of the *American Heritage Dictionary* defines egoism as "The ethical belief that self-interest is the just and proper motive for all human conduct." Sounds good to me. I will become an egoist ("one devoted solely to his own intersts and advancement," from the same dictionary).

Currently the social houses are the last bastion of egoism on campus, the last place where people can freely extol themselves and rest assured that no one will care.

But where to begin this process of transformation? I wondered. What organization on this campus could help me cultivate my egoism? Where could I receive guidance in achieving my goal of becoming a Big Man on Campus? Then it dawned on me — a social house. After all, the whole system is set up to encourage the pursuit of personal gratification, from the unlimited beer to the near certainty of randomly hooking up with a warm body at the end of the night. It was a life-affirming decision. I mailed letters of apology to Kathy Ebner and Bob Pack and set out for Ridgeline Woods with nary a care in the world, except of course for myself.

I must admit, I entered Tavern with not a few reservations. I could not help noticing how my shoes stuck unglamorously to the floor as I entered the foyer of the beautiful new house. Then someone handed me a cheap beer. I hestitated for a moment. The old me would have preferred something a bit more cosmopolitan. But then I saw my future reflected in the wan liquid — a life of beer pong and skirt-chasing, of chugging and funneling and shotgunning, of kegstands and shirtless dancing to "Like a Prayer." The choice was made. I took a sip and felt...nothing. It's cheap beer, what can you expect?

But my ego surged as I looked around the room. Music pounded, beer flowed, hormones ran high. What more could an egoist ask in life? Such a wonderful institution as a social house clearly has no role in the commons system. After all, the idea of the commons system is to create a universal atmosphere of intellectualism and liberalism (in the old sense of the word, of course). What about hedonism? What about encouraging people to claw their way to the top? What about Darwinism, for pete's sake? If Bob Pack gets his way, the social houses will be forced to conform to these standards. They will no longer be the dens of sin that they currently are, but will instead be forced to hold intellectual forums and discussions on life after a well-rounded education. Currently the social houses are the last bastion of egoism on the Middlebury campus, the last place where people can freely extol themselves and rest assured that no one will care — heck, no one will even remember! — the next day. We must ensure that the social houses remain so that future generations of egoists can nourish their personal desires in peace.

I would like to end with a quotation from James Cameron — "Titanic" director, world-class egoist and my new personal hero — from the recent Academy Awards ceremony

"I'm king of the world! Whoooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooo!"

Pyromania effects an odd harmony

(continued from page 6)

this is a little absurd and.. well..maybe a little reminescent of the fifties, but once you consider the idea, you'll go for it too. Come on guys, how often have you seen the women of your dreams — that smashing, well-toned blond walking around in those cute bootlegged J. Crew pants (And thanks to Mack, there will be more of these sorts) and then run into her in an old nightshirt in the hall before bed. Somehow, they just look better during the day.

Speaking of men scoping women on campus...our dining halls haven't arranged food alphabetically. So, I was at breakfast yesterday and decided to skip my usual bagel and opt for a bowl of cereal. So, I rambled over to the cereal bins and was flabbergasted. Yes, I commend Proctor for having such a vast assortment. But how is your typical incoherent "I had three hours of sleep last night" breakfaster supposed to find his cereal? I searched for the Team Cheerios for 10 minutes until I concluded that Proctor did not have them. A comment card, you say? Well, I was about to make a dash to that funky looking comment card table (You know, I have only seen people stop to read that display once in the last two years) and demand that Proctor get Team Cheerios. But then I realized by adding my cereal, they would only confuse other students who, like me, were innnocently looking for their cereals and ended up being late to class because they wasted so much time searching for breakfast. The best option, therefore, is alphabetizing the cereal. I know it sounds a little dorky, but Seinfied does it and he's cool.

Wasn't there an episode on Seinfield about pyromaniacs? Well, if there wasn't, I want to address the issue anyway. Three cheers for the College Pyromaniac! It took one smart guy to set a couple fires to get the College to comply with Vermont State Law. You wonder what other laws the college has been breaking for over a decade. The funny thing is the administration knew the school didn't comply and now they blame the poor guy who set the fires for the hasty removal of trash cans. As far as I'm concerned, this guy was ingeneous. It's clear he knew what he was doing. In fact, I believe he had it all planned out. He knew the College would get in trouble and thus did his job to get the State Fire Inspector here.

Students learn secrets of flashing for cash over spring break

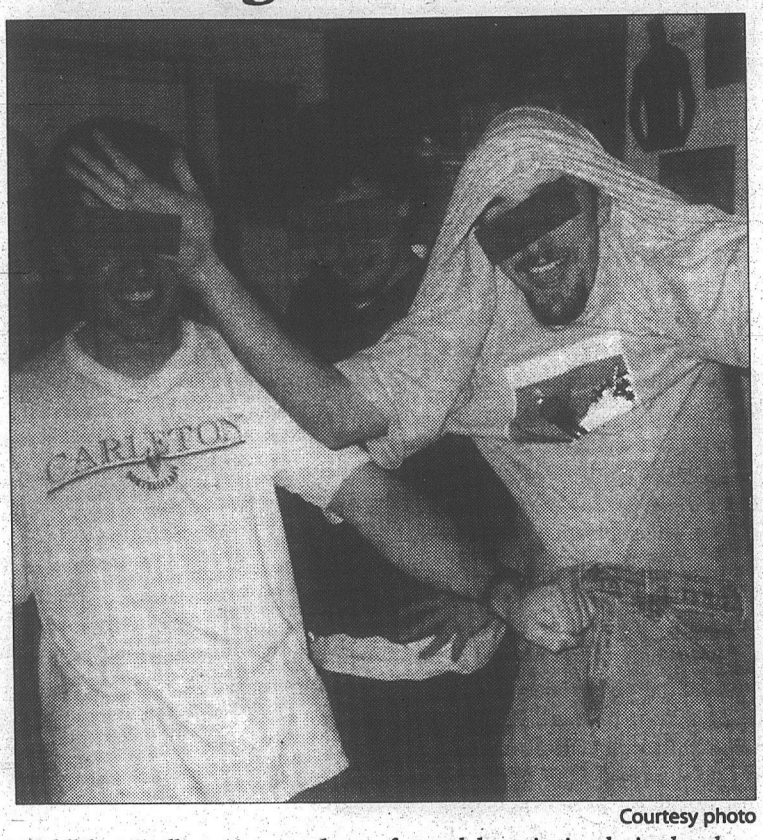
By Tin-tin Fortin
Stripper

While some were sunbathing in the Bahamas or building houses in South Carolina, a group of Middlebury students were earning money to pay off their PIN bills and to defray the costs of their plane tickets home. Inspired by movies such as "The Full Monty" and "Strip Tease" and the book *I Was an Ivy League Stripper*, six Midd kids decided to earn their cash by revealing (almost) all at Lady Godiva's. Although Lady Godiva's, whose club motto is "We undress to impress," caters usually only to an all male crowd, this strip club allowed the three Midd men to go (almost) full monty after they argued for equality in the workplace. Because stripping, even in the '90's, still has a stigma attached to it, these students, albeit excited to share their story, wish to use pseudonyms in this article.

Said sophomore "Crystal Light,"who consented to interview only under her stage name, "My reasons for choosing to join my five friends in their escapade were primarily financial ones. However, after being inspired by their talk of carpe diem, I figured that this was an opporunity not to be missed. After all, life isn't worth living if you don't have any good stories to tell at your death bed and this is definitely one tale I am sharing with my grandchildren. An added bonus is that my five friends and I are so much closer. It was a true bonding experience."

The idea for this spring venture originally came from Light, who had mentioned *I Was an Ivy League Stripper* after walking back from the movie "The Full Monty". Feb sophomore Ben League remembers, "We figured, 'if a Brown student can do it, so can we.' Besides, it looked like a lot of fun on the big screen. In the end, what made us do it was the principle."

Part of the taboo that surrounds stripping is its dangerous quality and the general public discomfort with revealing one's body to strangers and dancing for money. But, League assured the *Campus* that "although the audience [at Lady Godiva's] got a bit rowdy at times, we felt safe."



Courtesy photo

Middlebury College trio earned some fast cash by stripping during break.

As for letting go of one's inhibitions, fellow Middlebury stripper Antonio Cezar-Coelho '01 said, "There's nothing like dancing with a G-string only. It's very liberating. I like to play with my duality: by day, I am an erudite, diligent student; by night, I lead the ulterior life as a Godiva god."

Light nodded in agreement, "It's actually more physically demanding than it looks. I thought that dancing at McCullough from 11 to 3 am was practice enough, but that's not necessarily true. Also, it's emotionally draining because you have to know what the audience likes. It really as much of a tease as the name suggests. There is a lot of mind play involved."

Said Narcis Bistro '99, "I like stripping because I am comfortable with my body and I want others to be comfortable with my body, too. Stripping is a very primal act and there has to be a great deal of confidence and integrity involved, and a big part of this is the fact that there is nothing between you and the audience."

Those interested in stripping, if only so that one can have a good tale to tell, should contact your local strip club for information or dial the toll free number at 1-800-FUL-MOON.

Ask Delphi: No problem is too big!

Dear Delphi:

I think I have a problem...Recently I have been unable to go through an entire day of classes without having the overwhelming desire to down a quick bottle of Jim Bean. (Or Jack, if I can't find Jim, but I do prefer the delicate taste of an expertly distilled bottle of J.B, it is a fine art to me!) Even when I am working at the library at night, I suddenly have the urge to make some Whiskey Sours, and chug away at the circulation desk. I can't even take a shower without bringing my trusty flask in, but this is a hassle some, tedious undertaking. What should I do? I need some advice on how to multi-task, I can't go on like this.

Al Kahallik

Al,

I myself often encounter this similar problem, and have come up with a couple of remedies that will allow you to wet the pallet and enrich the mind at the same time. First, instead of going to class sober, I highly recommend that you drink thoroughly and passionately before you even step out of your dorm. Not only will this quench your desire to drink in class, it is academically stimulating as well. Liberal arts colleges thrive on random and incoherent remarks made during discussions, many a seminar has been based on this theory. In the library, I will let you in on a personal bit of knowledge I happen to possess. Doris, head of the reference department, happens to keep a bottle of Seagrams Gin handy at all times. Just don't ask her to mix you a Martini, she frowns on that type of pretentiousness. Finally, as for the shower, I would discourage this practice all together. Why use soap when your body is constantly doused in the aromatic scents of hard liquor, a perfume that will draw girls, flies, and vagabonds to you with no problem. Good luck, and cheers...

Delphi

Dear Delphi:

My roommate and I have a point of contention which we would like for you to resolve...When taking bong hits, is it proper for the provider of the buds or for the provider of the bong to get first rips? Help us blow away this hazy issue,

Cheech + Chong

Dear Cheech + Chong,

When I rip after a long day with my friends, we usually bestow this honor upon the provider of the buds. Our only exception to this rule is if the buds happen to be schwag outdoor crap that he bought off some high school kid in town. Good toking and "Nice Dreams,"

Delphi

Delphi:

For my Classics 342 class, "Rome at its Pinnacle", my teacher has proposed that we partake in a group orgy to try to gain a better understanding of what Roman life was like...What is proper etiquette at an orgy? What should I wear? Should I bring food? How many partners in one night is considered orgy standard? I have so many questions, please help!

Mark Antony

Mark,

When in Rome...be prepared for anything. I recommend that you dress lightly, something that is practical yet sexy, you must be ready to compete for partners and don't want to deplete your stamina with heavy accessories. I would go with a Toga, it both accentuates your readily available nakedness, and shows your acute historical understanding of the time period, a bonus for the teacher. As for food and refreshments, grapes, ambrosia, and wine are usually considered to be the proper choices. When selecting a wine, look for a nice Italian red such as a Chianti, cheap California or French wines are certainly an orgy faux-pas. As for partners, even I hold no answer. I can only offer you the advice that you should follow the trend at this particular gathering, and make sure you have at least one go with the professor. Be sure to compliment him or her on their resemblance to a young Julius Caesar or Cleopatra if that be the case. Last but not least, enjoy yourself, decadence and debauchery are not activities for the serious at heart. Good luck, and may Rome prosper forever,

Delphi

Delphi's quasi-Fascist quote of the day: "Nicht durch reden und Majoritatsbeschlusse werden die grossen Fragen der Zeit entschieden - das ist der Fehler von 1848 und 1849 gewesen - sondern durch Eisen und Blut." Otto von Bismarck

Student Spotlight: Oil baron diversifies his way

By Theodore Rosenblum
Special Attache to the Pope

When asked a year ago today where he would like to go to college, Idin Amit Hamed '01 shocked his entire family by declaring that he wanted to attend Middlebury. Sipping on Moet and eating pate made of the endangered African White Leopard, this reporter learned of the intricacies involved in this certified oil baron's decision.

"It was an easy decision," commented Hamed, "Where else could I go and not feel overwhelmingly superior." He continued, "This school is all about barons, whether they be owners of ski companies, construction firms, or like myself, oil fields. At the Vermont Mecca of the rich, money flows as freely as the watered-down orange juice in Freeman."

Since his arrival in Vermont, Hamed has done much to change the stoic facade of this Puritan New England school. In December, Hamed created the first-ever harem at Middlebury, transforming the fourth floor of Stewart into a place where he can keep his wives and mistresses. "It was getting annoying," said Hamed, "One wife in Battell, one in Hepburn, it is too damn cold to get my pleasures by walking all over this campus, I needed consolidation." Hamed's move was considered revolutionary, and the Mormon club followed suit just a week later.

In January, Hamed continued his plastic surgery of the school by importing 20,000 palm trees and 4 million cubic tons of sand to Vermont. After purchasing the Johnson Art Building from a very enthusiastic group of aesthetically relieved professors, Commented one disgruntled professor, "I kept telling the Prez, that is one ugly building and his solution was to put up more modern sculptures outside. He thought it was funny that the most recent one was made by a blind three year-old with one arm." Hamed proceeded to create a desert climate within his newly purchased building. He titled his creation, "The New Midd East." Even this reporter couldn't help but to be impressed with the attention to details. I am still nursing a wound from mistakenly wandering into the second floor West Bank, where an Israeli soldier tagged me for a Palestinian youth.

Hamed's most recent addition to college life has been the creation of a new sports team at Middlebury, of which he is the captain. The Middlebury Oil Tankers now compete in the international Jihad league, a sport which follows the rules of pursuing a holy war. Commented Hamed, "It is pretty simple, you find an enemy who you declare to be in defiance of Koran Law, and then you attempt to eliminate them."

The Tankers have been struggling early in the season, having chopped of only 27 infidel hands, while stoning to death a league low 13 women who did not follow proper dress code, yet they hope for a late season surge. "We have a match against a very tough Afghanistan team in late April," said Hamed, "but I think if we are victorious we will still have a chance at the Salman Rushdie Cup."

With so much already accomplished, one can only wonder what the future holds in store for Hamed. He plans to get involved in community service very soon, in an attempt to help dispel the myth that all rich people are selfish and insensitive to the needs of others. Said Hamed, "My butler and chauffeur are currently scheduled to do 25 hours a week in the upcoming month, I can't express how much altruism means to me."

Hamed also plans to open a restaurant in town, with the name, "I'11 Show These White Fools What Humus Really Tastes Like", accompanied by a series of lectures, the first one being titled, "Hey American idiot, it is time you knew that Malcolm X was not the first Islamic Prophet!"

Cute, loveable squirrel to replace panther as College mascot

Oremlap Enitsirk
Serutaef Retide

As Middlebury College approaches the next millennium and considers the question of the future of the Commons system, it becomes all too easy to forget that with this campus make-over, we must also think about the future of our mascot. For 29.5 years, the panther has been Middlebury's faithful mascot and recently, had a statue erected in celebration of the College's upcoming two hundredth anniversary. Our Middlebury cards, T-shirts, and other assorted expensive bookstore things bear the proud panther print; our e-mail address further reflects the panther's role on our campus. However, while students and faculty were relaxing during spring break, President McCardell, the Board of Trustees, and selected students and faculty discussed the possibility of a new Middlebury mascot: the squirrel.

In a brief interview with The Campus, President McCardell said that this change in mascot was precipitated by the need for a fresher image. "Middlebury is going to be two hundred years old in two years and although our panther is relatively young, that panther is a symbol of the old Middlebury. Our squirrel will represent the new."

In a recent survey that was distributed in lower Proctor over spring break, students expressed their dissatisfaction with the panther. Said one student, "We don't even have panthers in Middlebury, unless you count that massive rock. Squirrels are our friends and they look so cute. They're indigenous to New England."

> **The panther is a symbol of the old Middlebury. Our squirrel will represent the new.**
> **–President McCardell**

Added one faculty child, who attends the local elementary school, "Panthers look mean." Although facially simple, there is truth in her statement: a panther is a conventional image for pride, aggressiveness, and the thrill of the kill. (You've seen the William Hurt movie Cat People, right?) In stark contrast is the squirrel, which could prove to be a comfort to college scholars suffering from the Peter Pan complex and need the adorable squirrel to remind them that one can stay eight years old forever if one wishes.

While the general consensus is that "Go, panthers!" is comparatively easier to scream at hockey games than "Go, squirrels," 63% of those who actually answered and returned the survey believe that the latter reflects the sportsmanship and the innate charm and cuteness of our sports teams, such as our four time NCAA-winning hockey team.

Said Hilary Watts '01, "As a community, we can cater much more easily to the eating habits of the squirrel. Panthers eat a lot!" Added first-year William "Chase" Budell, "I go nuts for squirrels."

The Bookstore can also capitalize on the squirrel. Which would you rather have Baby Bonny sleep with: powerful panther or soothing squirrel? Also, Middlebury need not spend money on a new statue because the College can borrow the squirrel statue on Highway 53.

As of press time, President McCardell and the Squirrel Steering Committee are continuing their discussion of our new mascot. They are very interested in student input and inquiries should be forwarded (for now) to squirrel@panther.middlebury.edu.

Meeghan Murphy

McCardell unveils the new sculpture to overlook the Proctor toasters.

Bite this

Mark Hamilton

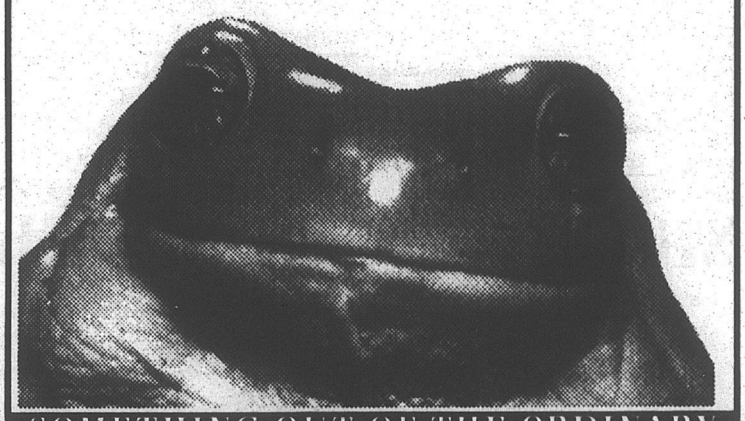
A disturbed frisbee player *fails to control his jealous anger over the grace and power of his solid opponent. When asked for an explanation, he blamed El Nino.*

A FROG IS YOUR LUNCH.

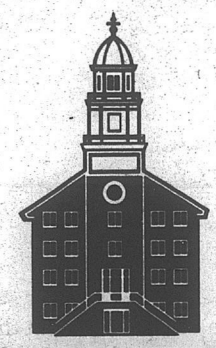
BOILED FISH IS YOUR DINNER

DR. PROCTOR IS ON YOUR SIDE

In order to increase the limited selection in Proctor, dining services is introducing gourmet cuisine from the countries known for their fine food.



SOMETHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY



Campus Voices

Special Washington Edition

We asked several prominent players in the Zippergate scandal:

With whom at Middlebury would you have an affair?

"Well, Russell Hulst has been satisfying my appetite for 12 great years."

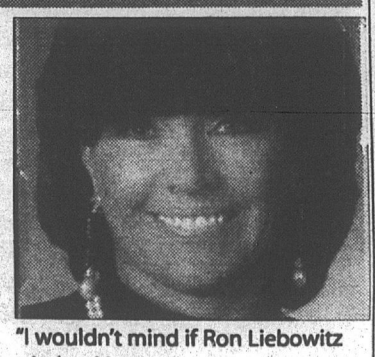
–Gennifer Flowers

"State troopers couldn't keep me from leaving one of Matt Longman's dance parties!."

–Paula Corbin Jones

"I'd get down on my knees for President McCardell."

–Monica S. Lewinsky



"I wouldn't mind if Ron Liebowitz tried to kiss me."

–Kathleen Willey

spring semester fever

PARTY HARD

GO TO CLASS DRUNK

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Sam Adams $12

Natty Light Free!!!

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Shrooms - CALL FOR PRICE

This is in no way an indorsement for the use of any illegal substances by people of any age or alcohol to minors. However, why do we continually kid ourselves. People drink and that's good. People throw trash cans through windows. That's not so good but that's the price america pays for being a hypersensitive country when it comes to drinking- anyone ever notice how we have the most alcohol related problems and yet our drinking age is the highest- well, thanks for reading all this. In closing, i will say that you should at least try what's out there- explore the possibilities- you may have fun for onece in your life

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Wicca

fact versus fiction *myth versus reality* demystified

witchcraft? ***black cats?*** ***nasty spells?*** ***broomsticks?***

Witchcraft. The word is often enough to send chills down the spine of even the bravest of people. Black magic, evil spells, recipes concocted in cauldrons simmering full of toads' eyes and lizard tongues. Scary stuff! But few have heard of Wicca–home of "the good witch." This week In Depth investigates the orgins of this unique religion and gives you the facts and myths abour the faith. One member even gives you the chance to particpate in a sacred Wiccan ceremony right here on the Middlebury campus. A real opportunity to learn some spells and rituals of your very own! So, read on and fear the ancient art of witchcraft no more. Perhaps you'll decide that Wicca is the religion that your soul has been searching for. Wiccas do not discriminate on the basis of gender, color, or creed.

AmericanWiccans targetted by genocidal French trappers

By Wells Chandler
In Depth Editor

In high school American history we all learned about the tragically misguided Salem witch trials. However, few high schools outside of Vermont focus on the events which preceded the paranoia in Salem.

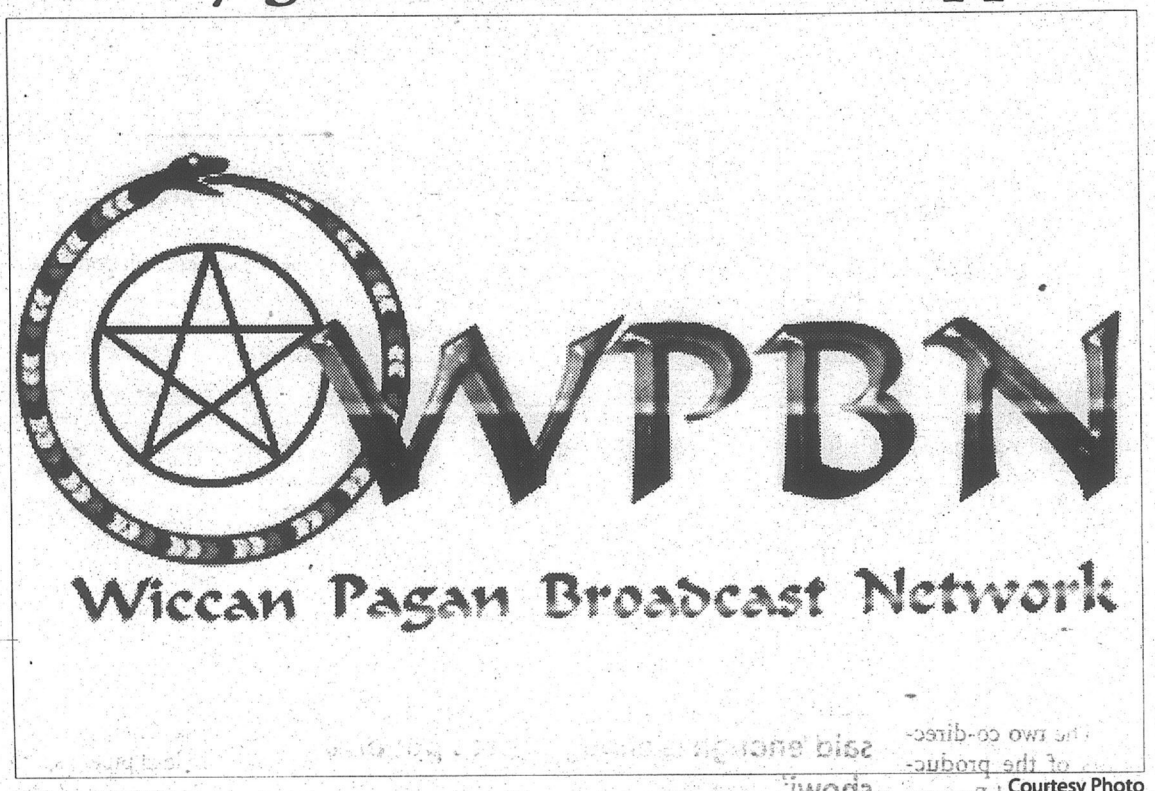
The confrontation between man and "witch" began in 1652, along what is now Vermont's coastal corridor with Lake Champlain. Centuries before this, paganic immigrants from northernmost Scotland had ventured into the lake from the St. Lawrence after passing through Missisquoi Bay. They landed and settled the area, successfully mingling their lines with the native Abenaki tribe. The cross-breeding produced a powerful and unique hybrid society, both physically and spiritually. As the lakeside populations grew, they looked to the females for leadership; the mystic matriarchs in each family became known as wiccas.

As the years passed the wiccas and their families grew apart from the purebred natives, isolating themselves in the lakeside forests. It was not until 1609, many generations later, that the wiccas met their first European; Samuel D. Champlain. The encounter was brief, as the wicca families kept no furs for trading, but Champlain was deeply intrigued by their mysterious and uncatagorizable demeanor, as noted in his memoirs. Thirty seven years later French trappers began settling in Vermont. For six years the wiccas maintained the autonomy of their land, but the trapper encampments grew into settlements as French ships filled the St. Lawrence. Soon the Europeans began setting traps and removing virgin lumber from land the wiccas and their families controlled. The wiccas threatened violence for trespassing after failed attempts at diplomacy, and followed through in the ensuing months. The Frenchmen were greatly outnumbered, but regardless, the wiccas demonstrated a mysterious "control of nature which God would never bestow on man" according to Michel Giroux, which drove the French from the wiccas' land.

Over the next three years the Europeans formed alliances of convenience with the native patriarchal tribes which had always distrusted the wiccas. Then, in the winter of 1655 they attacked the wicca families with ferocity, intent on eradication. Many were killed, but as many families scattered into the wild.

In Salem, thirty seven years later, the frequent occurrence of "phenomenon of nature" which undermined the establishment of European settler society, ignited fears that the wiccas had re-gathered. In the ensuing months of hysteria the English puritans culled any of their own they even suspected, the fear of wicca reprisal against Europeans was so great. It is not believed that they succeeded in identifying a single wicca.

Rather than resurface and stand ground, the wiccas have maintained a life of subversive secrecy, playing a long-term role in American history. Many families that claim to be surviving wiccas still live in Vermont, even Middlebury, but they have adapted. They have become benign controllers who are undeniably weird, but welcome in their small towns.



Courtesy Photo
Wiccans have evolved over the centuries, they now produce their own cable chanel; talk to your local cable provider!

Middlebury's own witch reveals the mystical world of Wicca

By Marie Bober
Staff Writer

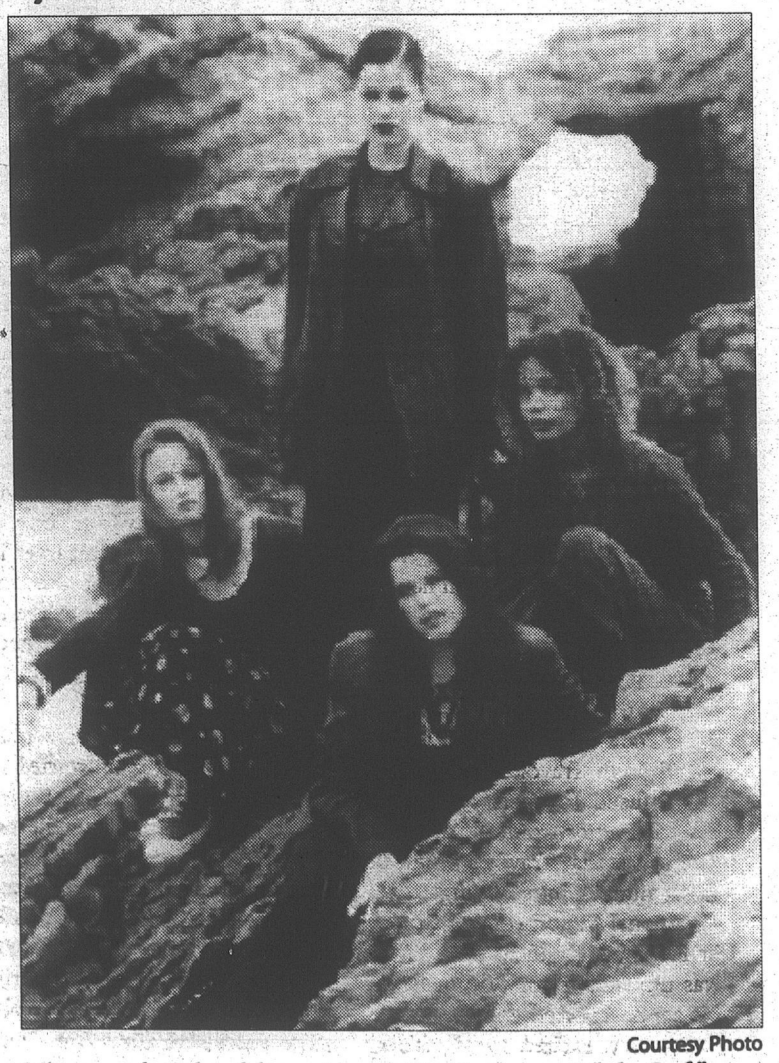
Wicca is not a "cult." If it were, I would have a maniacal belief in some ultimate leader. Instead, I believe in the trees, the earth, and the sun. I believe in the magical powers inherent in all of us which can manifest themselves in objects like candles, books, and wands. For example, objects like the magic knife and the cauldron are made sacred through the use of herbs and mystical rituals. There are certain herbs like lavender, jasmine, honeysuckle, and my favorite, mugwort, that have a special significance to us. There is nothing supernatural about it. Although we may use these tools to focus our power, the true force comes from within. It is through our visualization of the natural world that we are able to exert the full forces of our powers.

Let me describe a typical Wiccan ceremony for you. Around April 30th we celebrate the holiday of Beltane. This holiday must be celebrated in front of a living tree. If this is not possible, a potted plant will do. A charm to honor the wedding of the God and Goddess must be created and hung on your shrubbery of choice. This shrubbery should be filled with flowers, beads, carvings, and whatever other ornaments you may deem necessary. To complete the next step, you must arrange an altar, light the candles, cast the Circle of Stones, and invoke the Goddess and God (a crucial step in many a Wiccan ceremony!) Upon invoking these powers a sense of peace will fill you as your soul communes with nature. With your wand upraised you must finally whisper a sacred chant and place your token on the tree. Works of Magic may follow. Now celebrate the Simple Feast, consisting of vanilla ice cream and oatmeal cakes, and the Circle is released.

Contrary to popular belief, Wicca is not synonymous with Satin worship. In fact, the devil is a construct of the Judeo-Christian beliefs. The Roman Catholic church created this myth in order to oppress this up and coming Neo-Pagan religion and most of the "witch" stereotypes originate from this view. Actually, I don't even think I own a broom, never mind flying on one. (I would think they would be quite uncomfortable for long trips!) Modern television perpetuates this image with their portrayal of witches casting spells, riding on brooms, an owning black cats. Take for instance Sabrina the Teenage Witch. This show exploits the stereotype that most people have about witches and this sadly causes the practitioners of Wicca to be shunned and classified as freaks.

Wicca is by no means popular; I have yet to find another like me on this campus. Most of us are drawn by a calling to this religion—a calling from within. For a long time, I didn't have a particular name for my beliefs, and because I was raised Roman Catholic I was always told that what I believed was wrong. One day I picked up this book that had a description of Wicca. I was absolutely electrified!!!!! It seemed that someone had written down exactly what I felt. I was self-initiated only a few weeks later, and have never regretted it for a single minute.

My goal in writing this article is to help those of you who may be uninformed like I was. I hope the above will help you begin to understand what the wonderful world of Wicca really is and I encourage you to explore the wealth of information that is available. So, I invite you all to celebrate the tradition of Beltane with me. The ceremony will convene in front of Mead Chapel and a procession to Ridgeline Woods will follow. Come and explore the world of Wicca.



Courtesy Photo
Wiccans and witchcraft became popularized by the movie "The Craft."

'The Sound of Music' announced as spring theater production

By Judy Denmark
Staff Writer

The hills are alive with the sound of... Frenzy? Tumult? Music?!?! Yes, the students of the Middlebury Theatre Department have been in a state of frenetic shock recently, ever since the faculty made its rather stunning announcement just before Spring Break that all of the semester's upcoming projects would be completely abandoned in favor of staging a full-scale production of the "Sound of Music," to be performed in mid-April. The decision has resulted in what stage manager Katherine Inglis, '98 calls "one of the most hectic rehearsal schedules I've been through since assistant directing Mark Evancho's one-man version of 'Oklahoma!' two J-terms ago."

Inglis is one of the few drama students who does not appear overly surprised by the decision; "the faculty has been pushing to do a big musical for as long as I can remember, but up to this point the resistance from students has been too high," said Inglis. "The professors have been listening to the whims of the students for too long and I think they finally said 'enough is enough—let's put on a show!'"

...up to this point the resistance from students has been too high. The professors have been listening to the whims of the students for too long and I think they finally said 'enough is enough—let's put on a show!'

–Katherine Inglis '98

The two co-directors of the production, Cheryl Faraone and Richard Romagnoli, Professors of Theatre, affirmed this, if not in those exact words, in last Thursday's press statement: "'The Sound of Music' is a show we've been wanting to do ever since Mary Martin spoke at a theatre lunch ten years ago. It's a show with a great deal of subtextual resonance for those of us living so proximate to the Von Trapp family inn; and now that there's a revival of it on Broadway, well, it simply couldn't be any more relevant or appropriate—it absolutely HAD to be done. We'll give that Rebekah Luker a run for her money yet!"

However, the directors have made it clear that this production will NOT exactly replicate nor even faintly resemble the more traditional versions of the musical that people are familiar with. It has been described by all those working on it as a complete departure from the "Sound of Music" as we now know it—it entirely reworks, reshapes and redefines those elements of idealism and pedagogy that the Julie Andrews movie in particular has reified within the matrix of our post-Eisenhower culture.

To outsiders of the production, just what those reshaped elements were remained a mystery until Monday evening, when a specially selected audience was invited to "sneak preview" a dress rehearsal and engage in a post-rehearsal discussion of the upcoming show. The first of the avowed changes involves the billing of Justin Shipman, '98 as responsible for "additional lyrics." In the discussion, Faraone supported this choice by asking "Qu'est-que ce Hammerstein? Some of the original lyrics just didn't challenge the audience enough. We called Justin in to rework them because he's quite in tune with the tempo of contemporary vernacular complexities." Yet any major alterations of the lyrics were not wholly apparent Monday evening, with two exceptions. First, the song "My Favorite Things" morphed from its usual listing of innocuous sources of comfort into a tribute to destroying material possessions. In the course of the number, Fraulien Maria (played with warmth by Michole Biancosino, '98) and the seven Von Trapp children completely demolished and smashed a total of thirty-three expensive props with weapons that included a sledgehammer, a hatchet, a lead pipe, a spatula, a melon baller, Alex Cranmer's '99 stiffened body and a huge wrought-iron wrecking ball which they all gleefully frolicked around during the dance break. The only other noticeable change in lyrics was evidenced in the yodels of "The Lonely Goatherd," wherein "Lady-oh-da-lady-oh-da-le-he-hoo" became "Yo Mama!"

"The Lonely Goatherd" also illustrated the other major "departure" inherent in this production: non-traditional gender casting. The cast is almost entirely made up of women, with the exception of three men: Tyson Lien, '98 as a puppet in the "Lonely Goatherd," Lucian Tion, '98 as Liesl (the oldest Von Trapp girl) and Alex Cranmer as Brigitta, the bookish and tormented middle sister. The rest of the cast is female, a choice which caused a number of theatre majors to search for performing venues elsewhere, including Frank Wildermann, '99, Matt Landfield, '98.5 and Mike Doyle, '98 who have joined forces with the Musical Players to stage "Nunsense II: The Second Coming" (rumor has it the cast will include Rue McClanahan), as well as Thaya Brook, '99, and Erin Carr, '00 who were originally cast in "The Sound of Music" but departed to pursue roles in UVM's cross-gender "Fiddler on the Roof," declaring that "if we're going to play men, we want more facial hair."

The rehearsal took place in the Studio Theatre (as will the performances), although there were apparently numerous attempts by the directors to use a more intimate performing space, such as Mitchell Green or the Gifford Annex Lounge, something Student Activities ultimately did not allow.

All in all, the rehearsal went fair-

(see Faculty excited, page 10)

Courtesy Photo

The theatre department gears up for yet another production involving cross-dressing and Austrian nannies.

Middlebury prepares for Travolta visit

By Justin Yadreams
Staff Writer

"Here's what I've decided about myself: I've only been good at two things in my life—flying and acting. Those are the two things I'm not insecure about. So, even when nobody cared much about me, I didn't lose confidence in those two areas... maybe in other areas of my life, but not those two." So said the world-renowned actor John Travolta in a recent interview, and appropriately enough, Travolta will be engaged in both of those activities two weeks from now, when he visits Middlebury for a weekend-long series of lectures, workshops, and discussions focusing on everything from acting and movie-making to flying and Scientology.

Although Travolta's spokesperson refused to specify precisely when the actor would be arriving, he did say that Travolta would be flying himself into Burlington International Airport either Thursday or Friday, April 18 or 19. Travolta was unavailable for comment, but his agent reported that the star is, "very, very excited to be visiting Middlebury."

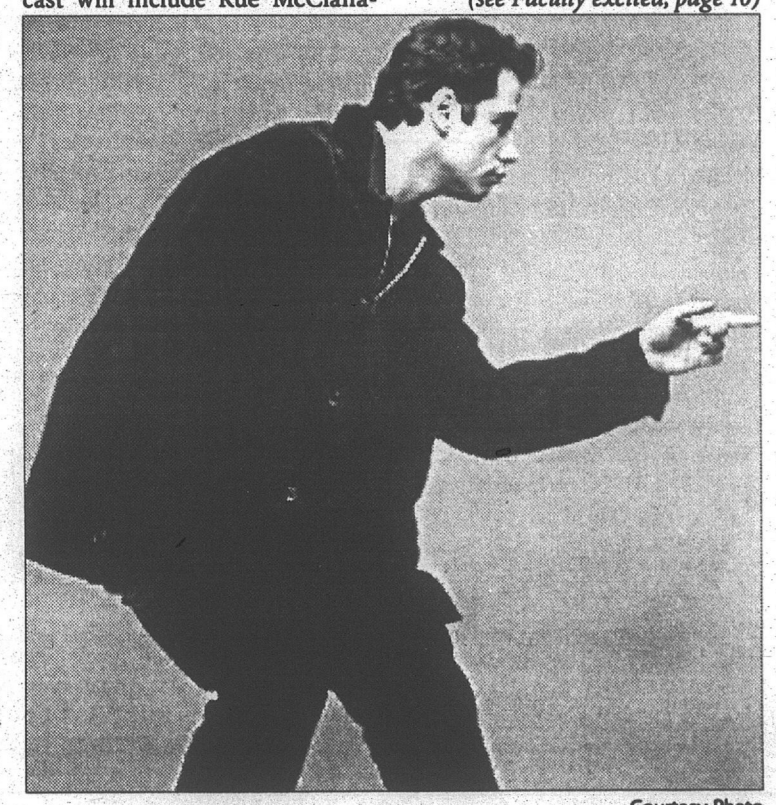
Several Middlebury alumni who have gone on to work in Hollywood have been fortunate enough to work with John Travolta, and the actor's respect and admiration for these Middlebury grads has reportedly been a factor in his decision to visit the College. "Mr. Travolta is extremely interested... in working directly with the students," his spokesperson said, "and he hopes that his time in Middlebury will allow him to get away from some of the stress and rush of a career in film." The re-release of the immensely popular movie "Grease" has apparently been one such source of both stress and excitement for Travolta.

John Travolta's acting career has spanned 36 years, jump-started by films like "Saturday Night Fever" and "Grease." A sagging middle-period in his acting career featured such disappointing work as "Look Who's Talking," "Look Who's Talking Too," and "Look Who's Talking Now." Nonetheless, his popularity as an actor has increased again with more successful films like "Pulp Fiction," about which Travolta recently remarked, "Any time I'm given the opportunity to be a good actor, I go back to the top."

Travolta has also been a prominent and long-standing Scientologist. This obscure organization has attracted both admiration and criticism lately (TIME magazine dubbed Scientology a "Cult of Greed") for its practices. The 43 year-old actor, however, dismisses many of these critics, maintaining that, "All new religions get condemned like this, the same was said about the Christians back when." Furthermore, during his weekend at Middlebury, he plans to give a lecture on "Scientology and the College Community," and attend a panel discussion on the subject, moderated by Professor Yarbrough of the Religion Department. About his thoughts on Scientology, Yarbrough shook his head and tersely remarked, "I am skeptical."

President McCardell, though, has high hopes for the actor's visit. "I think it will absolutely do wonders for the college; this kind of event could pull Middlebury up a slot in the U.S. News and World Report "Best Colleges" rankings," he said, adding, "I'm actually hoping Mr. Travolta will have some suggestions about decentralized dining." On inquiring about whether the actor would address such issues, his agent reported that Travolta, "had no idea what [McCardell] was talking about." McCardell, who is rumored to be a recently avowed Scientologist, said he was also excited about meeting the man whom many people consider the national figurehead of Scientology. "I find their policies and practices intriguing, and perhaps applicable to some areas of Middlebury," he noted while signing letters announcing next year's tuition increase at the College.

Whatever the outcome, John Travolta's excursion to Middlebury will undoubtably be one to remember. While the events featuring the actor are numerous, organizers concerned with the possible crowds are reportedly limiting them to Middlebury students, faculty, and staff only. Tickets are scheduled to go on sale during dinner on Monday, in Proctor, and most of the events will be held in the Concert Hall of the Center for the Arts.



Courtesy Photo

Leading Scientologist, Travolta, will lecture on the new Commons System.

Student show revolves around multi-tiered set

By Erin Fishbaugh
Staff Writer

There has been plenty of debate in the theatre department over the scale of student productions this year. In light of this, many may find it odd that Jessi Burgess, '00, had her proposal for her junior independent project approved for next fall. She will be directing "Noises Off," a play requiring a two-tiered revolving stage. The play will be performed in the Hepburn Zoo next November.

What many may not realize is that this was not the play that Burgess first proposed. The new musical, "Titanic," which has a three-tiered hydraulic stage, was not approved by the faculty

It seems Burgess might have picked a play with fewer technical challenges, but "this play just spoke to me," she said. "It spoke to me and it said 'two-tiered revolving stage in the [Hepburn] Zoo.'" What many may not realize is that this was not the play that Burgess first proposed. The new musical, "Titanic," which has a three-tiered hydraulic stage, was not approved by the faculty. "We felt that, with 'Sound of Music' going up this spring and 'Secret Garden' next fall, that is, the fall after this one, we didn't want to over-tax our singing actors," explained Professor of Theatre Douglas Sprigg.

The person responsible for building this set is Raquel Davis, '00, who is technical director of the Hepburn Zoo, and will be the set designer and technical director for Burgess' production. Although Davis has designed and built several sets for student and faculty productions, this is a much larger project than she has ever tackled in the past. She, however, feels she is capable of taking on the production. When asked about the issue of money, since student shows have limited budgets, she answered "Well, we'll tear apart some of the platforms from 'Ivanov' and hack a few chunks off the 'Equus' set...we should be able to do it for $150, no problem." The staff of the show has come up with several solutions for financial issues regarding the set. For example, instead of the set revolving mechanically, a crew of trolls, dressed in bright colors and face paint will come in and rotate the set manually.

Courtesy photo

A small theatre with a big job ahead: the Zoo gets ready for "Noises Off."

Still, the low-hanging support bars that run across the ceiling of the Hepburn Zoo also pose a problem since it will be difficult to fit in the second level without the actors banging their heads against the metal bars. However, Burgess and her staff have already found a solution to this difficulty. "I haven't cast the show yet," said Burgess, "so when I do, I can just cast really short actors. We also are thinking about working out a budget for knee-pads if I decide to cast a taller actor." The chances of a tall actor being cast, however, are very slim since they will have trouble even getting in to audition. Burgess' resourceful stage manager, Kirk German, '00.5, has already obtained a "you must be taller than this sign to ride this roller-coaster" sign from a local amusement park. He has repainted it to read "you must be shorter than this sign to act in this show" and will be standing with it by the door during auditions to ensure that only suitable actors audition for the play.

The question now is whether this will issue in a new era in theatre technology for student productions. Professor of Theatre Mark Evancho, who designs the sets and lights for faculty productions, hopes that "Noises Off" encourages students to look further into the design area of the theatre. "In my 101 class right now, I have students working on full-scale models of the 'Miss Saigon' helicopter, so, you know, anyone who's interested in directing next term, I've got some great designs for you."

Faculty excited to present a classic musical for spring show

(continued from page 9)

ly smoothly for the performers, and certain scenes and songs truly glowed with a fresh effervescence that resulted in part from being cast non-traditionally. Among the highlights: Stephanie Janssen, '99, as Captain Von Trapp singing "Edelweiss" while raucously playing a set of bongos, Ashley Adams, '98 as the Mother Superior singing "Climb Every Mountain" while being carried and flung around the stage by dance professor Peter Schmitz, and guest artist Hope Romagnoli as Sister Hildegaarde in her rambunctious a cappella version of "How Do You Solve a Problem Like Maria?."

One important piece of the show that was missing was Rolf, the emotionally bifurcated telegram boy of the Third Reich; happily, Sarah Nelson, '99 will be flying in from Midd Paris on opening night to step into this role, which was read admirably on Monday by stand-in Adam Krea, '98.

Not all of the innovations, however, worked, and first among these was the development of Cranmer's Brigitta into a dark and brooding figure. This made many of the play's moments unnecessarily tense, from his dramatic entrance rappelling shirtless from the ceiling to his discordant "fa" in "Do Re Mi" as he impersonated a hungry dog to his lombada-ing with a crutch while wearing a scarecrow's outfit. Act Two was brought to a startling, screeching halt during "So Long, Farewell, Auf Weidersehen, Good Night" when Brigitta pulled a gun from under her leiderhosen and shot herself in the head; one empathized with Gretl and Freidrich as they openly breathed a sigh of relief.

Perhaps this moment would have been more arresting if Act Two hadn't already had an earlier disruption; only ten minutes after Intermission had ended, crazed audience member Jessica St. Clair, '98, leaped from her seat and began tapdancing madly, throwing tap shoes at the cast while screaming "Why isn't there more dancing?! This musical is BEGGING for a good soft-shoe number!"

This John-Wilkes-Booth-meets-Ann-Miller outburst was only put to an end when two chorus nuns and a chorus nazi picked her up and "escorted" her from the theatre as she yelled "All I want is for people to look at me! Why isn't everyone paying attention to ME?!"

Interruption and tempestuousness continued as motifs right on through to the post-show discussion, when Faraone and Romagnoli got into a heated debate over whether the central set piece of the show would be an extremely long table set off by an immense white backdrop or a maroon poof accompanied by swaths of black fabric. This argument was resolved with the ingenious decision of Deb Sivigny, '99.5, to have Sarah Nelson bring an Alp with her from France. Sivigny later confessed that an Alp on stage was in her own best interest as it would be the best possible complement to her costume design, which has a vast palette ranging from plum to violet.

Shortly after this, Matt Griffin, '00, entered with what he said was an important letter from Nelson for the directors, but Griffin spent such a prolonged amount of time searching for the letter in his many pockets and admiring his fancy surroundings that before he could hand it over, Romagnoli grabbed Griffin by the ear and stormed out. Neither of them has been seen since, although there have been unconfirmed reports that they are now working at a juice stand on the Jersey shore.

Whether or not this production will overcome its various setbacks will be proven in a few short weeks. I know that I'm naive, but I have confidence that when the dog bites and the bee stings, Middlebury students' hearts will be blessed with the sound of music, and they'll sing once more. There's no way to stop it.

Audience anticipates magical event

By Susan Clappin
Staff Enthusiast

As the lights dimmed in the Center for the Arts Concert Hall last night, a sense of wonder and amazement thrilled through the waiting audience. They sat on the edges of their seats, breathless, anticipating an awesome event.

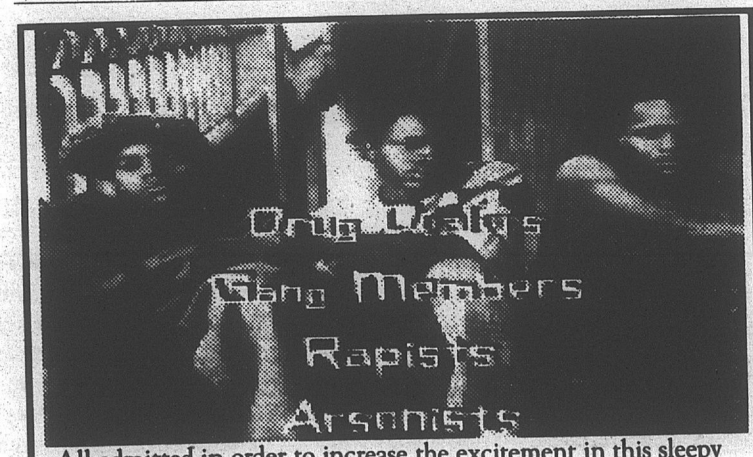
The extraordinary length of the dark pause that followed the dimming of the lights only served to heighten the audience's quivering anticipation as they breathed in and out in barely audible sighs, careful not to make too much noise

The slight ripple of coughs and sneezes that flickered over the crowd were quickly hushed in an attempt to avoid missing even the littlest, tiniest itty-bitty piece of sensation of the almost magical event that was to ensue. The extraordinary length of the dark pause that followed the dimming of the lights only served to heighten the audience's quivering anticipation as they breathed in and out in barely audible sighs, careful not to make too much noise. The pause drew on and on, like the raven night encircling a town, but the audience did not stir as they waited for this wonderous event.

Finally, a tiny pool of shimmering, quavering, almost not-even-there light began to glow on the concert hall stage. The edges of this pool of light were like the dark filmy air that hovers invisibly around the flame of a candle set on a table well away from draughts, which stands upright, burning in a proud, even drop of fire, unwavering and not emitting any smoke at all as two people sit opposite each other, eating their dinners of roasted chicken breast, boiled asparagus, and fresh wheat bread, looking all the while into each other's eyes, right past the neglected candle burning straightly in the center of the table.

A woman, clad in a dress of lightweight black material which seemed to skim—nay, to float—on the very air of the concert hall as she moved, walking slowly onto the stage. Her step was airy and almost mincing, dainty, as if Zephyrus himself were guiding her across the lacquered wood of the stage floor. The light swelled gently to envelope the entire stage in its maternal embrace as the woman glided to the center.

(see Excitement, page 13)



...All admitted in order to increase the excitement in this sleepy Vermont town know to all of us as Middlebury.

Everybody loves to trash troublemakers but face it. All Middlebury would be without us is a bunch of boring drunk kids- we make your life exciting. ...The fire in Kelly, yup, you have us to thank for that- stolen bikes- hey, we keep you honest. Teach your kids that you don't need to be a pansy, driving your Jeep Cherokee and wearing your ripstop nylon Northface jacket to be admitted into Middlebury. Hey, this new class is going to surprise you- Middlebury is changing, and if you ask me it's for the better- -peace out
For more info call 1-800-ARSON-YES

Junior jumps to first place in National Parabombing Championships

By Jennifer DeLeonardo
Sports Editor

Q: What's red, green, and beige and falls from the sky wielding paintball grenades?

A: Jon Quentin '99 and his favorite parachute.

"The sport was started by a bunch of parachuting instructors who also competed in a local paintball league," explains Jon, "They decided to take their two favorite activities and combine them into one."

"Parabombing" started in 1993 in northeastern Kentucky. It has been catching on quickly all over the country amongst precision parachuters who desire a new challenge to overcome in thier sport.

The sport combines the team-style play of paintball and the individual challenge of precision parachuting. In the game, the parachuters are released above a clearly marked field.

The parachuters then need to propel themselves toward the enemy's base which is marked by color. They don't know which side of the field is the enemy's until they jump from the plane and are close enough to the ground to look down and see.

Once they sight the base, the object of each five-man team is to "bomb" the opponent's headquarters with one of four "grenades" each parachuter starts with. The team which strikes the other's base first wins.

"My father and grandfather were both in special parachute units in the army during wartime (Vietnam and WWII)," says Jon, "They hated war but loved the feeling of jumping out of planes. So, when I was old enough, they brought me up and taught me how to jump."

"The people at the airport where I usually jump at home (Wabash, Illinois) liked the idea and wanted to start a team. They knew I had a lot of experience, and they asked me to join."

This experience has become a major asset to Jon's team, the Wabash War Commandos. Jon had over 2,000 jumps under his belt when he started, and in his competitive season this year has added 200 more jumps to this already impressive number.

His vast talent for precision parachuting has led him to be the number one strike man on the team. Out of his team's 48 wins this year, Jon has thrown the winning grenade 38 times.

One of these 38 times was in the finals of last month's National Parabombing Championships, where fifty-two teams from forty-six states competed in a week-long double elimination tournament in Nebraska.

"It was a thrill to win. Our team just got started this year, while some of the other teams there have been competing since the beginning. Also, a lot of the other guys have real war-time experience, while we are just recreational parachuters," says Jon.

He also feels that teamwork is key. "I think it really helps that we work together well as a team, wearing radios in our helmets and letting each other know exactly where we should be going as soon as the target is spotted. Some other teams act more as individuals; each member wants to be the one who gets the target instead of just wanting the whole team to win overall."

Jon also sees a bright future for the sport. "I don't think it's going to be an Olympic sport or anything," he says with a laugh, "but even in this past year of competition there seems to be more spectators each time and more people asking us how to get into the sport."

As the popularity of the sport grows, concerns about safety grow as well. "It used to be that just really experienced parachuters played. But as the sport grows, there's only a certain amount of people who are really experienced and more people are getting absorbed into it."

As a result, the organizers of the sport have begun to require competitors to take safety classes and go through the same program that instructors do.

"They just want to make sure that we have been thoroughly trained in safety techniques. They want to make sure that our mind is as much on pulling the cord as it is on bombing the other team's headquarters."

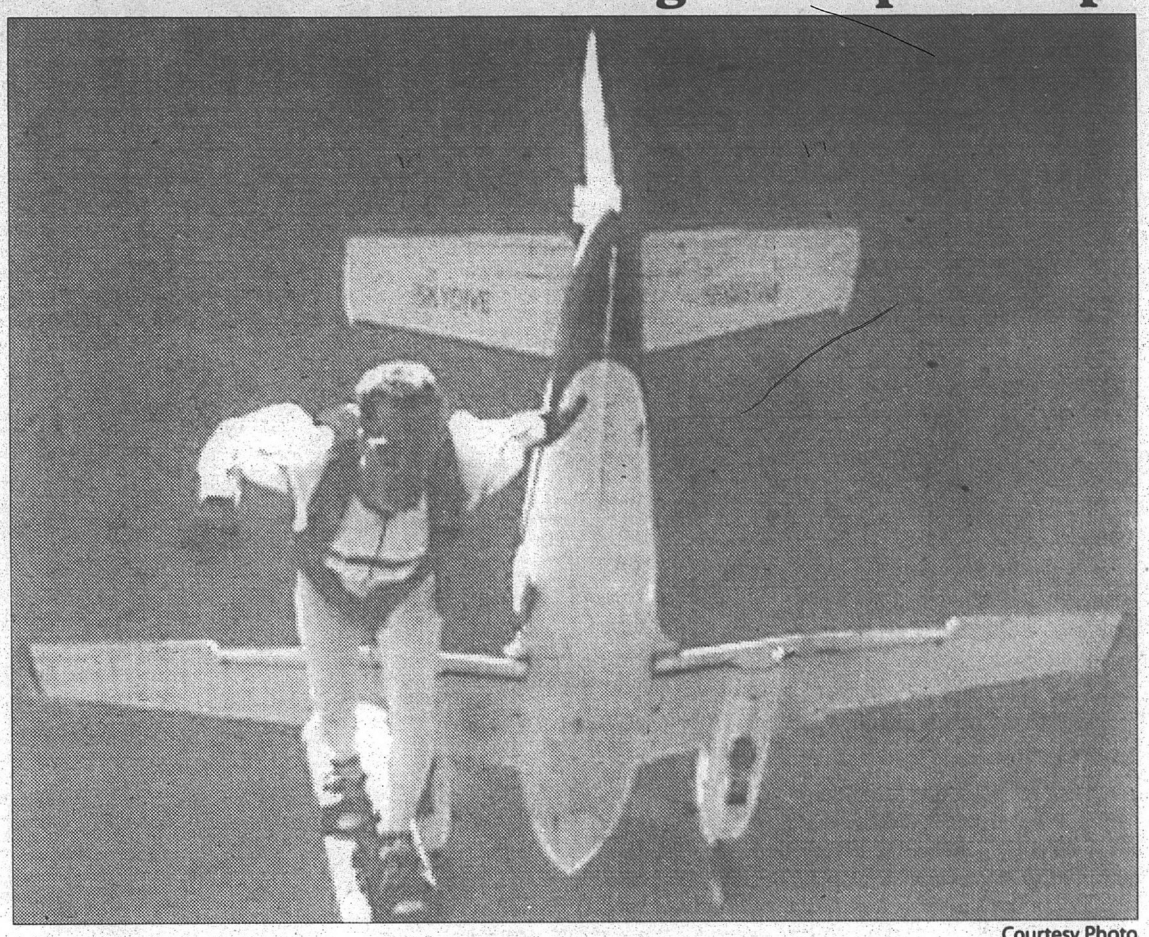
These safety requirements are not suprising in a sport that is inherently dangerous as parabombing. In the few years of competition, two people have already died, one in the 1995 North Dakota State Championships due to a faulty parachute and one at Western regionals in 1997 for a yet undetermined cause.

"I don't really think about danger any more when I'm jumping because I've done it so many times. It's just like a downhiller at the top of a race course; they don't think about dying as they race, even though they could."

The sport is facing many changes in the coming months, due to the newly formed APBA (American Parabomber Association), which will begin meeting to formalize the sport.

As for Jon's future in the sport?

"This is a lifetime sport," says Jon," I'm still trying to talk my father and grandfather into forming a team and playing."



Courtesy Photo

Jon Quentin '99 practices for his new Pepsi commercial in which he'll fly with the geese again.

Women's hockey team forfeits perfect season

(continued from page 12)

nate the game. However, upon further investigation, it became obvious that Middlebury was simply too good. We saw a team that was able to dominate the league so thoroughly that it must have been doing something not allowed within the rules. As we expanded the scope of the investigation we quickly saw that there was a pattern of illegal activity on the team."

The members of the team declined to comment at length on the NCAA's decision, but all were, "devastated," in the words of one first-year.

The Athletic Department similarly declined to comment officially, but one high ranking administrator stated, under condition of anonymity, "It was a stupid mistake. No one told them what they were and were not allowed to do. The coach never investigated their backgrounds, and now the entire team is forced to suffer."

The Athletic Department plans to issue an official statement by Friday, and there are hints at appealing the decision. Unless that appeal succeeds what was an incredible three years has become a devastating tragedy for the women's hockey team as well as the school.

The NCAA claims that there is little chance of a successful appeal.

PANTHER STATS

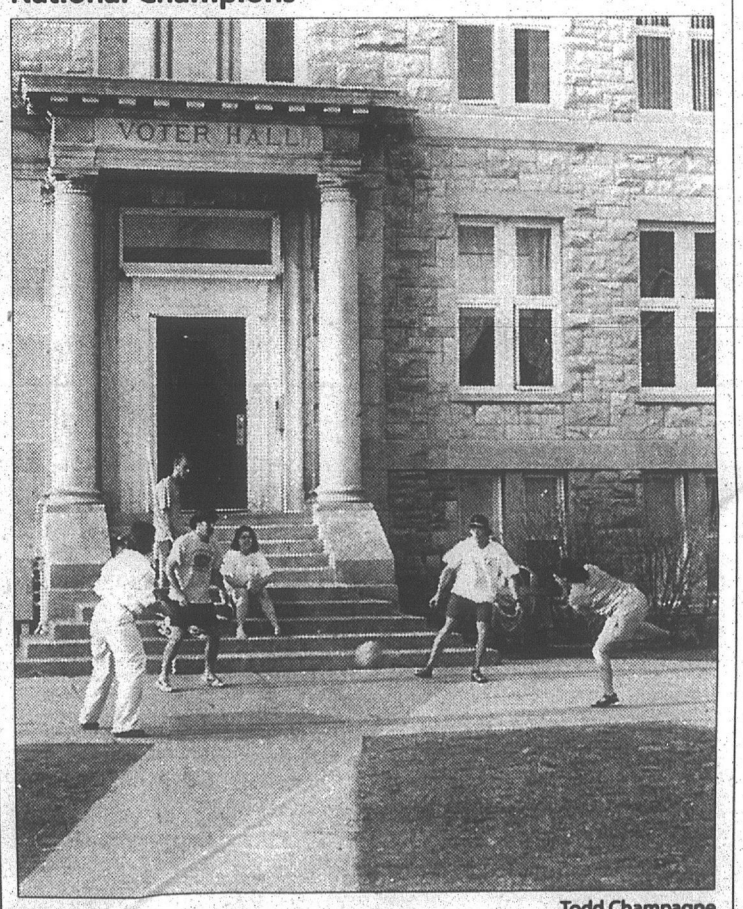
Men's Hockey

1-2-17 OVERALL (0-2-9 ECAC EAST)

		OVERALL									*ECAC EAST*			*CAREER*		
NO	NAME	GP	G	A	P	PP	SH	GW	P	PM	G	A	P	G	A	P
21	Curt Goldman	20	5	5	10	0	0	2	20	40	3	2	5	10	7	17
15	Mark Spence	20	5	4	9	1	0	1	19	38	3	2	5	12	9	21
44	John Giannacopoulos	20	5	3	8	0	0	2	20	40	2	3	5	8	3	11
11	Ben Barnett	20	4	3	7	1	0	0	17	30	1	3	4	7	2	9
9	Emil Jättne	18	1	3	4	0	0	0	15	28	0	2	2	4	3	7
6	Ryan Goldman	20	1	2	3	0	0	0	18	32	0	0	0	8	3	11
13	Nickolai Bobrov	20	1	0	1	0	0	0	15	30	1	0	1	1	1	2
18	François Gravel	15	0	1	1	0	0	0	14	28	0	0	0	1	1	2
10	Scott Goldman	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	34	0	0	0	first-year		
14	Filip Jirousek	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	24	0	0	0	1	0	1
19	David Bracken	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	30	0	0	0	0	1	1
5	Matt Skoglund	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	20	0	0	0	first-year		
28	Ray Turner	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	18	0	0	0	0	1	1
23	Ross Sealfon	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	20	0	0	0	0	1	1
3	Eric Zink	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	38	0	0	0	0	0	0
34	Maxime LeBlanc	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	28	0	0	0	first-year		
22	Brady Priest	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	25	0	0	0	0	0	0
33	Scott Curtin	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	26	0	0	0	first-year		
20	Jason Mikula	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	20	0	0	0	first-year		
26	Darren White	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	16	0	0	0	first-year		
12	Cam Petke	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	14	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	Jeff Anastasio	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Middlebury Totals	**20**	**22**	**21**	**43**	**2**	**0**	**5**	**267**	**4341**	**10**	**12**	**22**	X	X	X
	Opponents Totals	**20**	**363**	**389**	**752**	**45**	**34**	**7**	**26**	**24**	**68**	**72**	**140**	X	X	X

	GOAL TENDING									*CAREER*						
NO	NAME	GMS	MIN	GA	GAA	SVS	SV%	SO	EN	REC	MIN	GA	GAA	SVS	SV%	SO	REC
1	Francois Bourbeau	10	639	163	4.44	20	.541	0	0	0-2-8	2952	400	3.89	36	.457	1	5-2-45
30	Chris Farion	10	566	200	4.99	20	.489	0	0	1-9	3195	499	4.78	32	.434	0	1-7-44

National Champions



Todd Champagne

Showing off their skill, *the Middlebury varsity four square team practices on the favored Voter court after winning the national title.*

Men's Sports	
Basketball vs. Kentucky	April 3 @ 7:00
Hockey at BU	April 4 @ 4:00
Lacrosse vs. Princeton	April 4 @ 3:00

The Campus Sports

Women's Sports	
Basketball at Tennessee	April 3 @ 9:00
Soccer vs. North Carolina	April 4 @ 2:00
Softball at UCLA	April 4 @ 4:00

NCAA concludes investigation of women's hockey team

Middlebury forced to forfeit perfect 52-0 record and three straight ECAC Championships from the previous three seasons

By Chris Morgan
Sports Editor

What began as a minor investigation of first-year Michelle Labbe, and quickly spread to the rest of the women's hockey team, has caused Middlebury to forfeit its 52-0 ECAC Alliance record and three straight ECAC titles.

The NCAA Division III Eligibility Committee began its investigation shortly after Labbe established herself as a powerful member of the Middlebury team. They recently found that Labbe was ineligible to play for Middlebury as she lacked the proper credentials to play in the United States. Labbe, who is from Pt. Claire, Quebec, was granted permission to study at Middlebury, but she never received the proper documentation from the U.S. government to play hockey in the United States. As a result of the fact that Labbe was the points leader for Middlebury this year with a total of 58 points, resulting from 26 goals and 32 assists, the NCAA is requiring Middlebury to forfeit all of its games where Labbe has been a presence.

This means that Middlebury's entire season will be reversed and the record will stand at 0-26-0 overall and 0-18-0 in the ECAC Alliance. The ECAC Championship for the year is also forfeited and will be awarded to runner-up Wesleyan.

As the NCAA investigated Labbe they also began to spread their investigation to the rest of the team. Soon after the NCAA discovered that Labbe was ineligible to play for Middlebury they found that sophomores Sylvia Ryan and Christa McDougall, as well as junior Janice O'Neil, were all playing for Middlebury without proper papers.

This further devastated the team as Ryan, who is from Stellarton, Nova Scotia, was second in points behind Labbe with 52 points resulting from 32 goals and 20 assists. Ryan also played a significant role on the team last year scoring 26 goals and making 22 assists.

Similarly to Ryan, McDougall, who is from Pt. Claire, Quebec, has played a significant role in the team's success over the past two years scoring 15 goals this year and 16 goals last year. McDougall also had nine assists this season and 16 in the 1996-1997 season.

The final current player who was found by the NCAA to be ineligible over the entire course of her Middlebury career is junior Janice O'Neil from Louisburg, Nova Scotia. O'Neil finished fourth on the points list this season and has 90 career points resulting from 42 goals and 48 assists.

Pete Huoppi

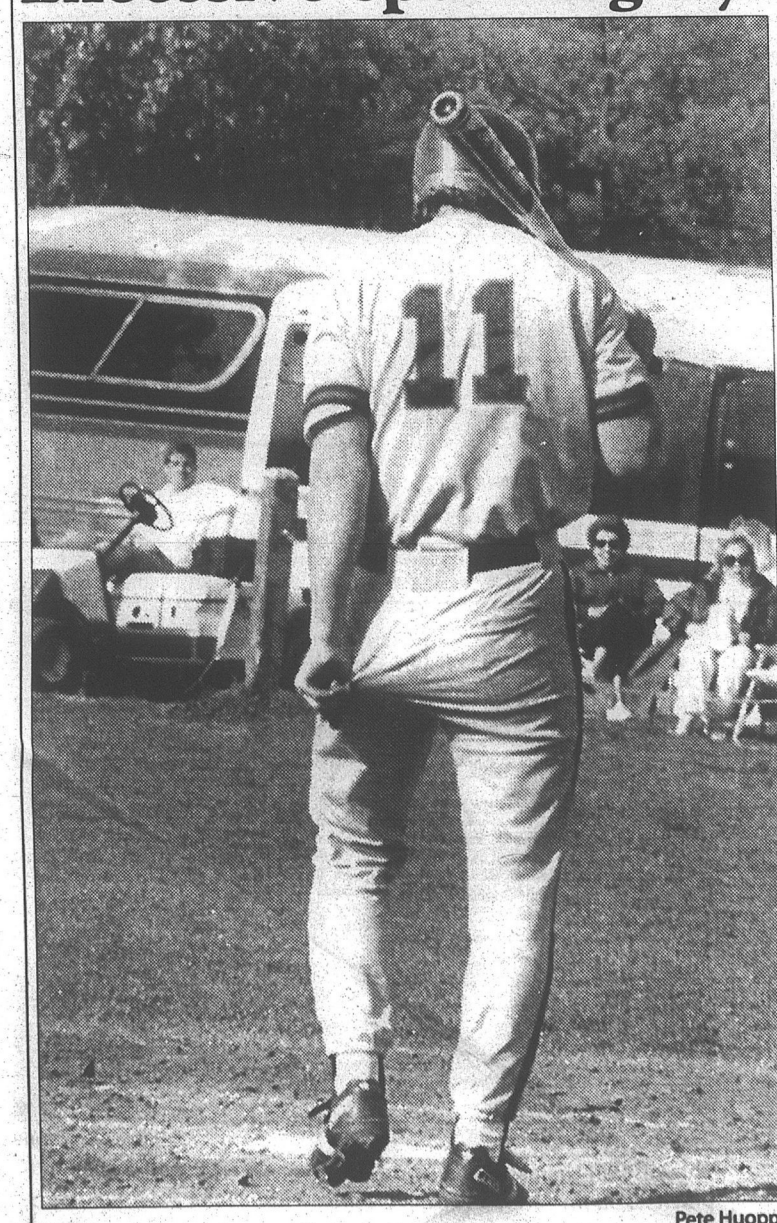
First-year Michelle Labbe began the investigation that has forced the Middlebury women's hockey team to forfeit its past three seasons.

The NCAA ruled that over the past three years the Middlebury women's hockey team benefited significantly from having these players on the ice, which gave Middlebury an unfair advantage. As a result of this fact the NCAA declared that Middlebury must forfeit all of its games for the previous three seasons, and that the three ECAC Alliance Championships will be awarded to the runner-up each year.

Commenting on what the investigation an NCAA official stated, "At first we were merely concerned with the performance of one player [Labbe] who seemed to domi-

(see Women's hockey, page 11)

Excessive spending by athletic department hurts baseball



Pete Huoppi

The baseball team suffered the most from increased spending on hockey and skiing.

By Chris Morgan
Staff Writer

Although the baseball team enjoyed some success in its spring break trip to Florida, the team suffered slightly as a result of their new uniforms.

The uniforms appeared to have been the same as the ones used by the team last year, but in fact they are cheap imitations, which the Athletic Department purchased from a company that was going out of business.

The new uniforms were fine in the first few games but the heat of the Florida sun and the high humidity eventually made them give off a foul odor. The team attempted to wash the uniforms to remedy the situation, but they only succeeded in creating a new problem. The uniforms shrunk, making them so tight that they restricted the normal range of motion.

At first the team suffered through the ill-fitting uniforms, but problems quickly began to develop. The team discovered that washing the uniforms again made them shrink even more, rendering them completely unwearable. Soon all of the team's uniforms were dirty and did not fit. Those who could still get their uniforms on were described as running much like penguins.

Upon the team's return to Middlebury, Coach Smith demanded new uniforms claiming that without proper uniforms the team would be forced to forfeit all of their games this spring. The Athletic Department responded to Coach Smith stating that there was no money remaining to spend on new uniforms.

Lack of proper funding caused the initial problem as the Athletic Department had to purchase discounted uniforms for the baseball team at the beginning of the season because of a funding shortage. Upon further discussion it became clear that the Athletic Department initially had greater funds available this year but they had spent most of their resources of "high profile" teams such as the hockey and ski teams.

The Athletic Department admitted that it had never spent the same amount of money on every team in previous years, and that this year the funding was even less equal. While the administration quoted one price for the new ice rink, several sources within the construction firm stated that the number being quoted by Old Chapel is far below the actual cost and the difference is being paid by the Athletic Department. No one involved in the project, however, would state exactly how much the Athletic Department is expected to pay by the time the project is complete.

Similar spending has taken place to support the Middlebury alpine ski team. A member of the team said they had been informed that next year they could expect a heated gondola to replace the Allen chair lift. Apparently whatever money is not being spent on the new hockey rink is being used as a down payment for the gondola.

The remaining funding will come from the Athletic Department budget for the 1998-1999 school year. This means that low profile teams such as baseball are going to have a tough time once again next year.

One player on the baseball team said, "I do not understand why all the 'big money' sports get all of the funding. The women's hockey team has to forfeit all of its games for the last three years, but they'll still have a new rink to play in. What'll we have? Uniforms that might as well be made of spandex and tear whenever you field a grounder on our crabgrass covered field."

The Athletic Department insists that it has done nothing wrong. They claim there is no evidence that they are funding the hockey rink, and as to the new gondola, they insist that it is being paid for with "outside funds." In the meantime the men's baseball team will be stuck sewing their own uniforms for the remainder of the spring season. What had previously been a bright season for baseball has suddenly become very dark.